

December 2014 Issue:441 £3.25

# Catworld

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## Welcome

*Every year I promise myself to be more organised with my Christmas shopping and every year, as you've probably guessed, I'm still racing around at the last minute trying to find half a dozen things for as many people. I am more hopeful this year though as our bumper Christmas Gift Guide this month has some beautiful suggestions of presents for family, friends and felines! I've already ticked several boxes with cushions, beautiful jewellery, a mug, a painting and a cat toy. I know I'll tick a few more when I go through the book reviews too. As for me, I like to spend some peaceful time stitching when I get the chance so I've also added a fabulous cross stitch kit to my own list.*

*Let's not forget the true spirit of the season though and spare a thought for those in need. Several charities are hosting fundraising events and one veterinary college is helping disadvantaged members of their community look after their own cats by providing free veterinary care.*

*I've got visitors staying over for Christmas this year so I'll be taking note of the tips to have a stress free festive season and making sure kitty keeps calm and out of trouble while we're all having fun.*

*I hope you keep calm too and enjoy the next few weeks, whatever you get up to.*

**Jill**

Jill Mundy, Editor • [editor@catworld.co.uk](mailto:editor@catworld.co.uk)

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## Write for Cat World

We're always looking for new writers to join our talented team of contributors. So if you have a talent for writing, and a passion for cats, we'd love to hear from you. We especially want to expand our team of specialist writers, with an in-depth knowledge of particular areas. So if you think you fit the bill email [richard@ashdown.co.uk](mailto:richard@ashdown.co.uk)

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**ashdown**

**DECEMBER 2014**

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# Mews round

Catch up on the latest news and mews on all things feline

## Raising funds for UK cats in need

As a way of raising funds for UK cat rescues, Purrs in our Hearts organises a lively pre-Christmas auction in November, in aid of a cat rescue.

The proceeds from their 2014 auction will be donated to an extremely worthy cause – Sunny Harbour Cat Rescue. The funds are being raised to enlarge their cat care facilities, enabling them to cope with the ever increasing number of cats and kittens in need. Every penny raised will go to help the cats.

Sunny Harbour Cat Rescue is a wonderful rescue run by husband and wife team Sarah and Paul, who work around the clock year after year helping needy cats.

“At Sunny Harbour Cat Rescue we rescue, rehabilitate and rehome cats and kittens from the Fife, Edinburgh and Lothian areas. We specialise in cases requiring extensive nursing care, behavioural problems and the hand rearing of infant kittens.

“We regularly take in cats in desperate need of help ‘out of area’ from Oban to Glasgow and even as far south as Birmingham, where there has been a need for our specialist care.

“We are a family run Charity with the welfare of the cats at the forefront of all we do. We offer an advice line to the public on all aspects of cat care and welfare and work tirelessly all year round to raise the funds required to provide a high level of care to all felines in our care”

• Purrs in our Hearts’ auction will take place online until 31st December. Visit [www.purrsinourhearts.co.uk](http://www.purrsinourhearts.co.uk) and help a cat in need.

• Sunny Harbour Cat Rescue (Scottish Charity No SC041871): [www.sunnyharbour.org.uk/](http://www.sunnyharbour.org.uk/)

## Foxy and Wolfie are fast becoming TV stars!

Beautiful Birman Foxy and cheeky chappy Maine Coon Wolfie have been having a very exciting time. Since their first assignment in the summer, they have appeared several times on the current series of The Secret Life of Pets, helped to organise a ‘pet blessing’ service at a local church and posed for their own range of greeting cards (see page 31). Fame beckoned and they have just recently appeared on ITV’s This Morning and will also be making an appearance in the next series of The Auction House, when they will be seen at home ‘helping’ with artwork and then later in the series at the auction house itself!

Owner Tabitha Miles, of Princess Tabby, said: “Foxy and Wolfie hope



that their TV career will go from strength to strength and we are hoping to have a stand at next year’s Supreme Cat Show in Birmingham, where we plan to show our artwork, greeting cards and promote bespoke pet portraits. Foxy and Wolfie are even going to promote a range of designer jumpers and scarves! They hope to be able to attend themselves, if they are allowed to!”

• Visit [www.princessstabby.co.uk](http://www.princessstabby.co.uk) for updates on where Foxy and Wolfie can be seen and what new products they are helping to promote. “Please keep a look out for them!”

## Stowaway cat Laurie needs help to keep on trucking

A black cat found as a stowaway on board a goods lorry has been looking for a change of luck in the form of a new home.

Five-month-old Laurie was placed in the care of Cats Protection’s Ferndown Homing Centre after being found in the back of a goods lorry that had travelled from France to Portsmouth Docks in June. He was extremely thin and dehydrated and another black kitten was found dead next to him.

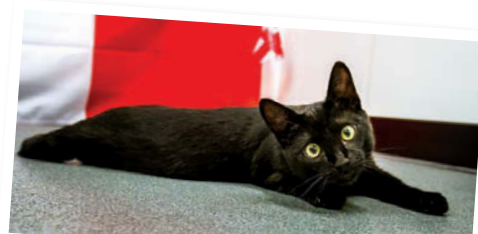
Donna Ward, manager of the Ferndown Homing Centre said: “A local quarantine, Eversdown Farm Kennels and Cattery, rushed Laurie to the vets. He was at death’s door and things weren’t looking good for him. At just a week old he had to be hand reared and required a lot of round-the-clock care but fortunately, he responded very well to treatment and, after a few months stay in quarantine at Eversdown, he was brought to our centre for homing.

“He’s a lively little character and we’re hoping to find him a home in the Dorset area. He would be best suited to a home without young children.

“He has an air of mystery about him because we don’t know how far he had travelled in the van or where in France he had come from but we’re hoping he can finally put his paws on firm ground in the form of a new home!

“Cats Protection paid Laurie’s quarantine costs, which came to around £2,000, so we’d be grateful too for any donations towards the cost. If you’d like to adopt Laurie, or make a donation towards his care, then please call Cats Protection’s national Helpline on 03000 12 12 12.” (lines open Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm)

Laurie isn’t the only unwanted black cat to face some tough times. Black and black-and-white cats make up around half of all the cats in Cats Protection’s care – and sadly they wait around a week longer to find a home than the average cat.





■ Send your feline facts, news & cat gossip to Mews Round. Email them to: [editor@catworld.co.uk](mailto:editor@catworld.co.uk)



## Treat your HiLife cat in style

HiLife Petfoods is giving pet owners the chance to really spoil their cats by venturing into the treat market for the first time.

The Leicestershire-based company is launching its new HiLife 'Indulge Me!' range, which is made up of tasty pieces of chicken or duck breast and has been created using 100% meat. The product is gently freeze dried to preserve its flavour and contains no artificial additives.

Town & Country Petfoods marketing director Peter Parkinson couldn't be more excited about the launch:

"Cat treats are one of the fastest growing areas of the entire pet food market and driven largely by social changes in which many owners increasingly humanise their cats. We're really excited about our first move in this direction."

'Indulge Me!' cat treats are available in handy 10g re-sealable bags, which can last up to 18 months.

Peter added: "We pride ourselves on supplying new and innovative products of extremely high quality and we've sourced the best possible ingredients to make the treats exceptionally tasty for cats."

"By using the freeze-drying process, the flavour is only released when the bite-sized pieces enter the cat's mouth and we know that they'll go down a treat with your pet; if you'll pardon the pun..."

This new range is available from ASDA, Tesco, Waitrose, Wilkinsons, Ocado, Amazon and Independent Pet Stores.

• For more information on HiLife, visit [www.hilifepet.co.uk](http://www.hilifepet.co.uk)



# Top brand food from Canada

Orijen Cat Food could be considered as a new category of cat food as it stands apart from any other product in the market. This pet food is biologically appropriate, made from fresh regional ingredients and is never outsourced.

Prepared in Canada, by Champion Petfoods, all ingredients are sourced locally and are delivered to their kitchens fresh each day. They never outsource their food production to third-party factories and they don't produce food for anyone else. The biologically appropriate philosophy concept is simple, to mirror the freshness and variety of meats that cats would naturally hunt in the wild and for which they are evolved to eat.

ORIJEN is loaded with 80% meat, up to three times more than conventional cat foods. The fresh poultry fish and meats are responsibly sourced and mirror the natural diet, supplying essential



nutrients in their most natural state. No water is added and the meat is steamed in its own juices. ORIJEN replaces fast carbohydrates such as potatoes and rice with low-glycaemic and regionally-sourced fresh fruit and vegetables. Fresh botanicals are also included to strengthen the body and spirit.

## Product range includes:

ORIJEN Cat & Kitten, ORIJEN 6 Fish and ORIJEN Regional Red. They are all typically 80% fish or meat, 20% fruits and vegetables and no grain or potato.

ORIJEN also have a range of freeze-dried cat treats which feature the same fresh, local meats, poultry and fish as their award-winning cat foods.

• [www.orijenpetfoods.co.uk](http://www.orijenpetfoods.co.uk)

Telephone: 01737 767679

## A pet is for life

Animals require attention and care and can't simply be returned or 're-gifted' if they don't suit a person's fancy. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) Foundation say the sad reality is that animals are often forced to spend every day alone and many are left in crates or cages. Others are dropped off at already crowded shelters or abandoned on the streets to starve,

get hit by cars or be abused by cruel people.

Thousands of cats and dogs are euthanised every year because there are not enough good homes for them.

Animals need love, stability and care. Giving them away as gifts can lead to serious problems. PETA urge you to encourage anyone you know not to give animals away as gifts this holiday season.

## The Pet Charity releases industry-first collaborative pet care leaflets

The Pet Charity, the national, public-facing body that promotes the joy and benefits pets have on society, has collaborated with experts to produce a new series of pet care advice leaflets.

The UK's love of pets seems to be ever-increasing, with more and more of us inviting a pet into our family. Exotic pet ownership is also on the increase but The Pet Charity has found that much of the care advice available is conflicting and confusing for owners. In order to end the confusion, the Charity has collaborated with experts, associations and vets to provide clear, standardised content. The Pet Charity has collaborated with the leaders in each sector such as the Kennel Club, International Cat Care, OATA, the Rabbit Welfare Association & Fund, REPTA and the BVZS.

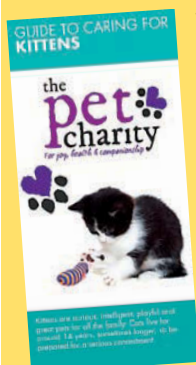
The leaflet range is comprehensive and clear colour-coding will help all owners of companion animals, small furies, reptiles, fish, birds and poultry. Alongside specific pet leaflets, The Pet Charity is also producing sponsored leaflets, which offer pet owners advice on neutering, vaccinations and microchipping.

The leaflets are available to retailers, vets, re-homing centres and pet service providers as The Pet Charity aims for a level playing field with standardised advice in order to further pet welfare in the UK.

Sara Bazeley, Media and Campaigns Officer, for The Pet Charity, said: "The collaborative leaflet collection is a first for the pet industry and The Pet Charity hopes that standardising advice information will raise knowledge of pet welfare in the UK."

The Pet Charity promotes research into the positive impact of pet ownership on public health and educates the public in the proper selection and on-going care of their chosen companion animals.

• For more information about The Pet Charity's pet care advice leaflets, contact The Pet Charity on 01234 224506 or email [sara.bazeley@thepetcharity.org.uk](mailto:sara.bazeley@thepetcharity.org.uk)



## Rugby stars tackle cat care for Blue Cross

Stars from Greene King IPA Championship club Worcester Warriors have teamed up with Blue Cross pet charity to help care for homeless pets at their animal rehoming centre in Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.

James Percival, Matt Cox and Mike Daniels from the squad visited the centre on 20th October to cuddle kittens, play fetch with dogs, clean the kennels and deliver the pets' breakfasts. Players will be visiting the centre every fortnight to help pets as part of their support of Blue Cross' £1.9m fundraising appeal to rebuild the current Bromsgrove site.

The centre's rebuild is due to start later this year and the new facilities include a special admissions area, an isolation unit for poorly pets, a veterinary suite, puppy and kitten housing, plus major refurbishment to the centre's kennels.

Blue Cross is also building a brand new £3m rehoming centre in Suffolk and there are plans to refurbish more centres in the near future which will help the charity double the number of pets they can help.

• To donate towards either of these fundraising appeals, or find out more please, visit [www.bluecross.org.uk](http://www.bluecross.org.uk).

## Christmas Cuddle-a-Thon



Bath Cats & Dogs Home is offering a special fundraising experience on Saturday 29th November and Saturday 6th December.

Get friends and family to sponsor you to be locked in a pod for 90 minutes with a beautiful, friendly feline - what better way to pass the time?

Children over 5 are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult. Funds raised will help to care for the many cats and dogs helped by the centre each year.

Interest has been high but there may still be a few places left.

• For more details and to book a slot, please contact Lucie on 01225 787334 or email [luciefowler@bcdh.org.uk](mailto:luciefowler@bcdh.org.uk)



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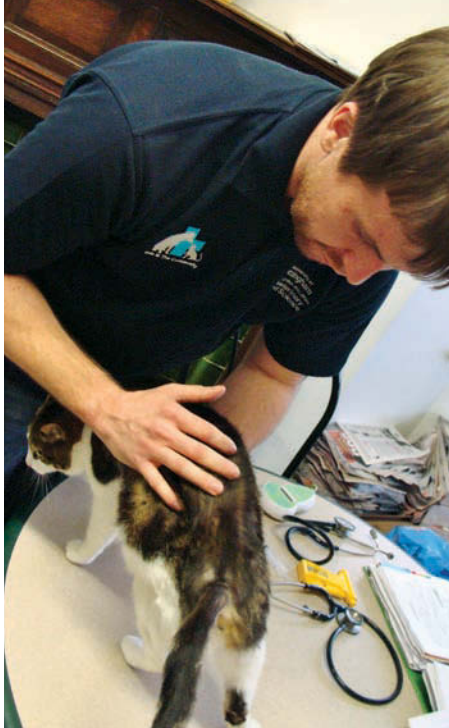


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## Nottingham vet school helps vulnerable pet owners

Veterinary students at Nottingham Vet School are helping vulnerable members of the community to care for their pets properly. 'Vets in the Community' is a student-led project that provides free veterinary care for the animals of homeless and vulnerably-housed people in Nottingham. Student and member Francesca Davidson said: "We run clinics twice a month and provide free basic veterinary care for the pets of homeless and vulnerably housed people in Nottingham. This can include vaccinations, flea and worm treatments, treating conditions such as ear and eye infections and providing advice.

"We also try to provide free samples of pet food and other pet items if possible. We see a mixture of cats and dogs, and sometimes some smaller pets too. It is a great opportunity for students in their clinical years to gain hands-on experience under the supervision of a vet, whilst providing a service to the local community. Currently we receive some funding from the University of Nottingham and also donations from students, staff and the general public. The clinics are expensive to run so we are trying to fundraise to keep going."

Vets in the Community is a not-for-profit organisation and rely solely on donations and the goodwill of vet students and the public to keep running; each clinic costs roughly £400-£500.

"Since starting in 2012, we have been very busy helping people in need and their animals. In fact, we have just increased our clinics from once a month to twice a month, to meet demand," said Francesca.

"The companionship and love of an animal means so much to those facing

hard times, and the people who visit our clinic really care about their animals and want to do what's best for them. It is hard for them to access veterinary care, due to cost and lack of formal address or paperwork. Our clinic is a great opportunity for people to access care for their loved pets, but also for vet students to get hands-on experience with animals (under veterinary supervision)."

Vets in the Community are desperately trying to fundraise to keep the clinic going, especially because the initial start-up fund from the University of Nottingham has nearly run out. They welcome donations of pet supplies or medication, pet food and other items such as blankets and dog coats to give to homeless pet owners at Christmas to help them through the cold winter months.

- For further information and to see the work the students are doing, please visit their Facebook page [www.facebook.com/vetsinthecommunity](http://www.facebook.com/vetsinthecommunity) or find them on Twitter: [@vetsincommunity](https://twitter.com/vetsincommunity)



## Celebrate cats all year round

What better way to start the new year than with a calendar full of beautiful cat photos. Gemma Menhenitt is a fundraiser for her local cat rescue, Clay County Cat Care. She has several cats of her own, many of which are rescues. "I have been with Clay County Cat Care for over a year now. They are a 'no-kill' rescue. This year, for a fundraiser, I have been busy since March creating a calendar which includes 200 cats/kittens that have visited Clay County Cat Care since they opened their doors in 2013. The calendars are in loving memory of Jan Bettison who was a lovely lady to all her knew her."

If you have any cat and kitten obsessed friends or family, you might like to treat them to a 2015 Rescue calendar, available at £10 each including p&p. All funds from these go straight into the Rescue. Please visit the website if you're interested: [www.claycountycatcare.com/calendar](http://www.claycountycatcare.com/calendar) or contact Gemma for an address via email if you would like to pay another way [gmenhenitt@rocketmail.com](mailto:gmenhenitt@rocketmail.com)

"Every little helps, especially around Christmas time. We've had some fantastic support this year from generous companies sponsoring CCCC and donating items for the many kittens & cats. I would like to thank them all from the bottom of my heart...and you guys as well for supporting us...and of course Leanne and Andrew."

The profits from the calendar will help towards the restoration and running of the Rescue, looking after the many cats/kittens and towards spaying & neutering them.





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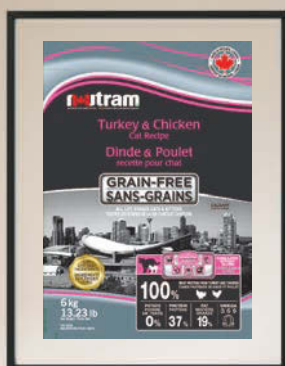

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# TRICK OR TREAT FOR big cats at Felida

Halloween pumpkins are more than just decoration at a FOUR PAWS Big Cat Sanctuary

**N**ijeberkoop, Netherlands – 31 October 2014 - The big cats at the Dutch rescue centre FELIDA have been celebrating with their own little Halloween party. Lioness Noor, lion Giovanni and leopard Bakari just seem to be thrilled with their new enrichment items: big Halloween pumpkins!

Like any other enrichment, the pumpkins help the animals to rediscover their natural behaviour, which has dulled during years of liv-

ing in poorly kept conditions. Presenting new items and scents helps to alleviate boredom and improve the general well-being of the animals.

Lioness Noor originally comes from a zoo and has been in FELIDA since 2006. She used to live with her son, named Bobby, but he died in 2013 and she has been living alone in her enclosure ever since. Initially, Noor examined her Halloween pumpkin critically from all sides before she finally grabbed it and carried it delightedly back and forth in her enclosure.

Lion Giovanni used to be a tourist attraction in Italy, where travellers would have their picture taken with him. In 2005, at the age of one year, when he became too big and heavy to be carried, he was handed over to the rescue station. Giovanni also relished in his Halloween surprise – he nibbled at it for so long, until the pumpkin finally broke into small pieces.

Bakari, an African leopard, was also very pleased with his vegetable snack. He was born in a German zoo, where visitors could take pictures with him. When the







zoo was no longer interested in him, he came to the rescue centre.

This playful animal needs to be challenged and the pumpkin turned out to be a target that could be attacked over and over again. As a result, the pumpkin didn't last too long! 🐾

### About FELIDA

FELIDA is a FOUR PAWS rescue centre for big cats in the Dutch village of Nijebierkoop. The centre was founded approximately 20 years ago as "Stichting Pantera", but for various reasons, the centre lacked maintenance for several years. In October 2013, FOUR PAWS took over the centre and started implementing necessary changes to improve the animal welfare situation. In the future FELIDA will become a transit station for big cats as well as a permanent centre for those animals that cannot be transferred anymore, meeting the FOUR PAWS standards for animal welfare and safety. There are currently two lions, 15 tigers, a black jaguar, an African leopard and a leopard cat at FELIDA.

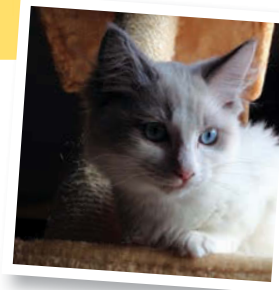




# Katy Edge

*Confessions of a 20 something cat lady*

## LIVING ON THE EDGE



There are no cats on Katy's wish list this year - but there may be a lot of cleaning products as her household multiplies again

**O**K, OK, so we did it. We did it, OK?! We got another kitten. \*Puts hands over eyes and peers between fingers\* Are you judging me?

Charlie is a beautiful blue bicour Ragdoll. He's also Operation Decoy Cat. Although Happee and Widget are getting used to each other, and have even been seen asleep on the same bed, we'd noticed there was some tension between them - and it was mainly down to Widget wanting to play when Happee was Not In The Mood.

Widget's a typical boy, who wouldn't take no for an answer ("Wanna go to the movies with me one night? No? How about dinner? No? Can I take you bowling instead? No? Shall we...?"), so we thought we needed a way of redirecting his energies. Being the incurable cat lady I am, it wasn't long before I arrived at the inevitable conclusion.

It's been (touch fur) an improb-

able success. Charlie isn't as boisterous or thick-skinned as poor Widget, so Happee doesn't mind him. He lets Widget kick him in the head - only in the most loving, brotherly way, of course - so Widget adores him. In fact, Widget, whose levels of personal hygiene are such that he once carried a lump of poo stuck to his bum for an entire day, even cleans Charlie. While holding him in an affectionate head-lock. Obvs.

No, really, it's going well. I actually woke up with three snoozing cats on the bed this morning. Three!

...Three cats, though. It's quite different to having two cats. I mean, apart from having 50% more cats, it seems as if there's been some major ideological shift. Two cats is average; if someone asks how many cats you have, and you say "two", they smile and say "Ahhh." They perhaps imagine a brother and sister from the same litter, who curl up together like ying and yang and share a patch of sunlight.

But if I say "three", there's a blink. Or maybe I just imagine the blink. Then it's, "Wow! Three cats." If I let slip that we have a dog, two chinchillas and a tank containing an unspecified number of fish, shrimps and snails too, the "WHOA - CRAZY LADY" shutters come down and I might as well have confessed to collecting celebrities' toenail clippings.

Although I know lots of perfectly sensible people have three cats, and those cats often live harmoniously together, I can't help feeling like all hell will break loose if I try to do it. I don't know why. When I rang my vet to book Charlie in for his once-over check, I found myself saying, "Sorry, this is the last one, honestly." Involuntarily, I pictured the receptionist hanging up the phone and saying, "Would you believe that woman? She's just got ANOTHER cat. Really."

Of course, my vet's receptionist is lovely, and wouldn't say anything like that. She's far too polite to comment that our household provides a large percentage of the practice's business. I've just developed feline-specific paranoia.

If I'm honest with myself, I don't know what to do with three cats. Two is straightforward: two bowls, two beds, one lap each. Simple. But three? If they have a scrap, you can't solve the problem by shutting one in the kitchen, because you still have two spare cats. If they won't eat without stealing from each other's bowls, you need three separate rooms! In cats alone, I have to keep track of six ears, twelve paws, and more whiskers than I can count!!

I haven't even started to think about how much more housework a long-haired cat will create... New year, new challenge, hey? 🐾





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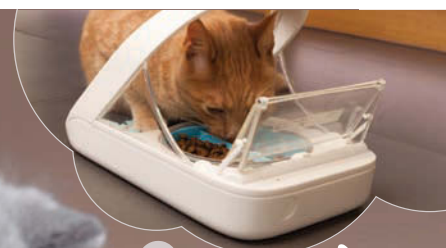
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# THE DEATH OF KITTENS PROMPTS flea warning

Two flea-ridden young kittens handed in at Yorkshire Cat Rescue have died from anaemia - prompting the charity's founder to issue a stark warning to pet owners to make sure their animals receive proper care



**A**long with four adult cats, including their mum, Hope and Hero were given to Yorkshire Cat Rescue by social services as their owner was unable to care for them. It was only when they arrived that staff noticed just how sick the kittens were - carrying a massive flea burden and unable to eat or drink.

"These tiny kittens were completely covered in fleas and none of them had the energy to suckle for food. Poor little Hero was so anaemic that we sent her straight to the vet for urgent treatment, including subcutaneous fluids," recalled Charity founder Sara Atkinson.

Little Hero didn't survive for long but Sara was hopeful that Hope would pull through. "When Hope first arrived with her sister she was too weak to eat. I stayed up all night with her - feeding her a milk substitute with a syringe and letting her sleep on the Aga to keep warm. Next morning she seemed better and began to suckle from her mum. I was so hopeful that she would pull through but unfortunately she had already suffered too much damage

from the fleas and died the next day."

Hope and Hero's mum had four active nipples which led staff to believe that she must have had as many kittens. "We suspect that two of her four kittens had already died before they got to us, probably also from flea-related anaemia. Unfortunately, it was also too late for Hope and Hero.

"People just don't realise how dangerous fleas can be - especially for young kittens and vulnerable adult cats. We pulled off a staggering 50 fleas from Hope and Hero alone - far too many for their tiny bodies to carry."

All four adult cats, including Hope and Hero's mum, were very thin but friendly. Once they have gained weight and been thoroughly assessed at the centre, including having been flea treated, they will be looking for new, loving homes. Sara said: "Unfortunately for Hope and Hero, all that is left is their story and a warning to owners to make sure their cats are treated for fleas. Hundreds of cats and kittens come through our doors each year but these two little mites were a little bit special to me, and they will not be forgotten." 🐾



## THE UK'S FLEA-FIGHTING FORCE

Fleas often make an unwelcome appearance on our pets at this time of year. Many pet owners aren't sure of the best way to get rid of them or which treatment is right for their pet. Did you know you might get the advice you need simply by popping down to your local pet store? And did you know that advice will be free?

Two thousand people now work as an Animal Medicines Advisor, or Suitably Qualified Person (SQP), in pet stores up and down the UK, and that number is growing fast. Rather like pharmacists but for pets, they have a professional qualification to dispense prescriptions and supply certain veterinary medicines for flea and worm treatments.

Jade Johnson from Bangor, North Wales, recently qualified as an SQP for pets. "I'm the 2000th SQP for pets in the UK" said Jade, who works for Pets at Home in Bangor, "but actually I'm not surprised. Pet stores put a lot of effort into training their colleagues and giving their customers really good advice.

"Fleas are a common problem at this time of year. Every day, people come to ask me about the best treatment and correct dose for their pet. Customers are sometimes surprised to learn that they have to spray their houses too but if you just treat your pet, you're only dealing with the adult fleas, not the eggs," she explained.

More and more pet owners are turning to their local SQPs to help them keep their pet's flea and worm free. Their advice is free and impartial.

"The public is definitely getting to know we're here for them and their pets," concluded Jade. "In the end, it's about making sure animals stay healthy. I get a lot of satisfaction from helping with that."





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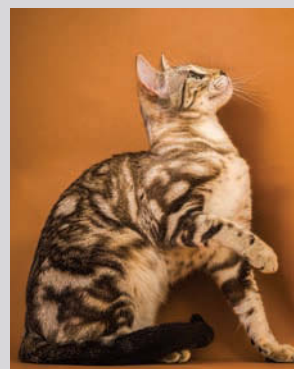


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# FOUR PAWS brings traumatised lions from Gaza to Jordan

In the previous issue of Cat World we reported on the work being done by International animal welfare charity FOUR PAWS to secure a new home for lions from a bombed out zoo on the outskirts of Gaza. This month we are able to give you an update on this rescue tale.

**F**OUR PAWS has now successfully transferred the three traumatised lions to Jordan, working with officials and representatives from Egypt, Israel, Jordan and the State of Palestine to secure the rescue.

Veterinary surgeon Dr. Amir Khalil from FOUR PAWS, who coordinated the operation on-site, was particularly keen to secure rapid assistance for the lions (two males of around six years, and one pregnant female of seven years). "This was about more than species-

appropriate shelter, sufficient food and medical treatment. After all, lions are dangerous wild animals. After the air strikes, the enclosures were far from safe for the keepers and for anyone visiting the zoo. That's why we looked for a solution away from Gaza."

The lions were anaesthetised, given a medical check, and loaded into transport crates. They were then transported in convoy to a transit station in Jordan, where on the same day they were successfully released into their temporary compound. As soon as their new enclosures are ready (these are still being built), the lions will move into their permanent new home.

FOUR PAWS is currently setting up a new animal shelter, the 'Al Ma'wa for Nature and Wildlife', around 45km from Amman in Jordan.

A solution will also be found for the

remaining 30 or so animals remaining in the zoo, including a macaque, vervet monkeys, wild cats, wolves, ostriches, pelicans, birds of prey, porcupines and a crocodile. Amir Khalil said: "We can see how much the people in Gaza love their zoo and its animals. So FOUR PAWS is pledging its expertise and financial

support for the correct reconstruction of the enclosures. We also want to train the local team in how to deal with the animals."

More support is also being provided by French animal welfare organisation, 30 millions d'amis. 🐾



● The FOUR PAWS team urgently needs more financial support from people who care. To make a donation to help these animals visit [www.four-paws.org.uk/donate](http://www.four-paws.org.uk/donate)



# Gifts for all

Looking for present ideas this Christmas? Our gift guide has it all covered; male or female, human or feline, you'll find the purrrfect gift for everyone



## Silver Pet Prints

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Whether you share your house with the purrrfect cat, or your dog is your best friend, here at Silver Pet Prints we can help you treasure those joyful memories with your pet forever!

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Pet lovers everywhere can have a truly personal, physical keepsake of their pet's paw print, beautifully handcrafted in fine silver, on a pendant, charm, pair of cufflinks or even a key ring.

Maija Pykett, founder and Director of Silver Pet Prints, says: "Pets hold a very special place in people's hearts and their home and each Silver Pet Print we make holds enormous sentimental value to their owner. Some 48% of UK households have at least one pet. Despite the economic downturn, expenditure on dogs and cats has increased by an average 4% per year in recent years. In particular,

there is a significant demand for original pet products, as pet lovers indulge in the relationship they share with their beloved pets. Silver Pet Prints meets this need directly."

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• To see Silver Pet Print's exciting range of jewellery with a difference, visit [www.silverpetprints.com](http://www.silverpetprints.com)



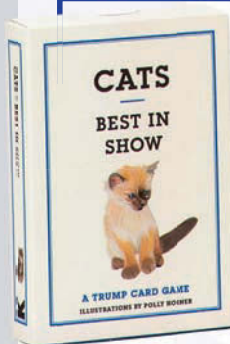
## Eric Robson wildlife art

Eric Robson is an original artist, producing animal and wildlife art, historical and archaeological reconstructions, museum presentations and children's book illustration.

• To view a selection of his work, please see his website [www.ericrobson.co.uk](http://www.ericrobson.co.uk) or call 07952929364 for a brochure.

Fine-art prints can be provided for any of the artwork shown; 12" x 16" or framed in a gilt swept frame 16" x 20"

Commissions are always welcome.



## Cat breed top trumps

Cats: Best in Show by Sue Parslow, illustrated by Polly Horner and published by Laurence King, is a set of top trump cards that feature beautifully commissioned illustrations, paired with pedigree facts and trivia on your favourite felines.

Does a Persian need more grooming than a Birman? Has a Turkish Van got a louder purr than a British Shorthair? Is a Siamese more independent than a Ragdoll? Who's bigger, a Balinese or a Bengal?

Find out who's the cat that got the cream with this beautifully illustrated set of cards. Using the 30 cards in Cats: Best in Show, players can trump their opponents with their highest score from six categories: Grooming Required, Activity Level, Voice, Intelligence, Independence and Size. The player with the lowest number of points gives up their card and the person with the most cards at the end of the game is crowned the winner.

Dogs: Best in Show is also available. Both are priced at £8.95, ISBN - 978 1 85669 9297

Polly Horner lives in Rye, East Sussex. When she is not drawing, she enjoys going for long walks where she comes across a number of dogs which she will inevitably stop, pat and photograph. She is the author and illustrator of 'Polly and the North Star' (Orion) and illustrator of 'Dogs: Best in Show' (Laurence King)

Sue Parslow is a Lincolnshire-based writer, author and editor. Her childhood cat was a black and white moggy named Pixie and she has gone on to share her home with many more cats, including her beloved companions of 18 years, Ruskin (Somali) and Rosetti (mixed pedigree). She loves cats for their beauty and intelligence.







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You can also find out more about Butterfly Cat Jackets and the weekly outdoor adventures of their Bengal cats through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

- **The jackets are available through the web-shop at [www.butterflycatjackets.com](http://www.butterflycatjackets.com) and by searching 'Butterfly Cat Jackets' via eBay, Etsy and Amazon.**



## Mad About Cats

Mad About Cats is a family run business established in 1999, offering a wide range of quality, cat themed products and accessories for cat lovers and their cats. Being cat lovers ourselves and sharing our home with four beautiful cats, we know how important it is to buy good quality items, not only for our cats but as gifts for family and friends.

Over the years our business has expanded and we have gained experience of exactly what our customers are looking for through retail outlets, stalls at cat shows and our website [www.madaboutcats.com](http://www.madaboutcats.com). Our business has evolved to suit customer demand and we launched our first website in 2001 which has run very successfully for thirteen years.

The time has now come to make changes again and our brand new website has just launched in November 2014. The name [www.madaboutcats.com](http://www.madaboutcats.com) remains the same but we now offer a much improved shopping experience for our customers.

The items we offer are sourced from around the world and we strive to find unusual and interesting items, from lower priced ones like cards to higher end ones such as designer handbags and jewellery, thereby offering a wide range of goods to suit every pocket. Our suppliers include Dunoon mugs, Ulster Weavers homewares, Jellycat soft toys and Frith ornaments, to name a few. On the cat toy and accessories side, we aim to offer items that are a little bit different, that our feline friends will enjoy and these include the highly popular Da Bird

teasers, Yeowwww catnip toys, Danish Design cat beds and Cosmic catnip toys, amongst many more suppliers.

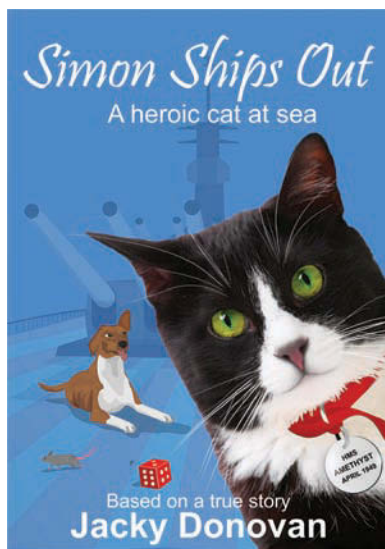
We understand what our customers need and we treat them as we would like to be treated ourselves, offering a friendly, excellent customer service, secure online shopping and fast delivery. Our post and packaging charges are staggered to reflect the need for flexibility and are structured to ensure that our customers are not paying too much if only ordering a single lower value item. For larger orders over £65.00 post and packaging is free.

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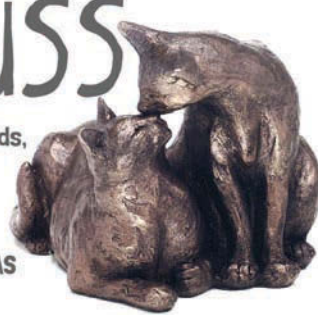
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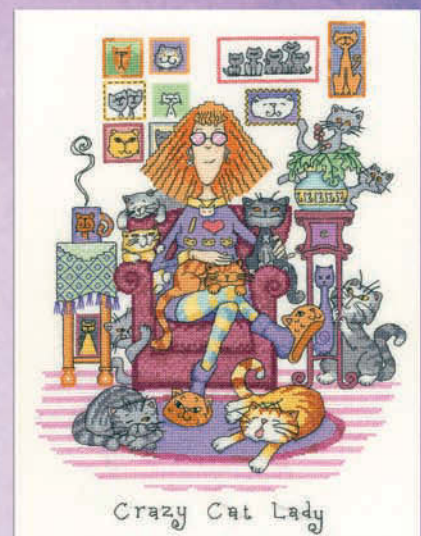
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## Erin House

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Erin House specialise in the cat pictures of Linda Jane Smith with a large range of pictures for you to choose from and prices ranging from £5.99. On their website you will find another 15 great cat artists, all with their own unique style, for you to consider.

Their feline figurine ranges include Comic and Curious Cats, 4D Art Contemporary Cats, Kitten Tales, Frith Sculptures, My Pedigree Pals and Govinder Cats.

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## Are you looking for a special present for a special pet?

The Natural Pet Toy Company can help - new season catnip toys & gifts.

Best known for whimsical, animal shaped catnip toys in a range of vintage-style fabrics, The Natural Pet Toy Company fish, mouse, rabbit and bird shaped toys are filled completely with the finest quality catnip herb.

Unlike many other toys that contain artificial fillers or stuffing, these delightful herb filled cat toys are especially strongly scented, which proves irresistible to most cats and they will play with these toys for hours. The toys are packed in attractive, recyclable packaging too, so are ideal as a gift at any time of the year, not just at Christmas!

Company founders Debbie and Laura told us: "We used to design and supply product for one of the oldest herbal shops in England and when they closed, we decided to pool our knowledge and branch out on our own. In 2011 we created our unique range of herb-based pet toys as well as beautiful items for your garden and home. We source from around the world but also work closely with many UK based suppliers and are adding to our range all the time."

Now based in historic Leigh Court near Bristol, The Natural Pet Toy Company has their own design studio and makes many of their items by hand, including beautiful cat collars with safety clasps and Liberty print dog collars, all named after places and inspired by events in Bristol. The latest additions to the range are reversible pet blankets and cushions, made from beautiful printed cotton and luxurious fleece.

They have a mail order facility as well as their website, making it even easier to buy their bespoke products.

• Visit [www.naturalpet-toy.co.uk](http://www.naturalpet-toy.co.uk)  
or Tel: 01275 370 935



## Cards and canvasses from Princess Tabby

If you are looking for artwork/photography of cute cats with a contemporary feel, please come and have a look at what we do. What was a new project has now has so much media attention that we are quite overwhelmed!

We are promoting our range of cute cat greeting cards featuring Foxy and Wolfie (as seen on This Morning, The Secret Life of Pets and numerous publications!)

Also large contemporary canvases, which feature various subjects (including cats!)

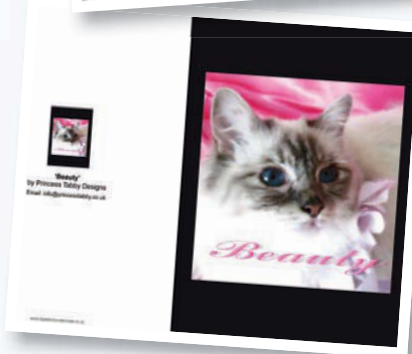
We will do bespoke canvases and photographs of your pet either from our photography or using your own photo to create a beautiful piece of contemporary art.

Some examples can be seen on the website (please see advertisement) or feel welcome to email or call for full range of products, prices etc.

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We will soon be seen on The Auction House TV show, with examples of our work

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# CATS IN STITCHES AT Heritage Crafts

All of us at Heritage Crafts love cats and most of us are owned by at least one of these wonderful animals, so it isn't surprising that many of our designs are of cats.

Heritage Crafts has been producing beautiful cross stitch designs since 1987, when managing director, Susan Ryder, gave up her work as a primary school teacher to turn her hobby of counted cross stitch into a business.

At first Susan did all the designing, specialising in designs of British buildings and maps. Colour and clarity have always been very important features of Susan's designs and this is still very much the case in all Heritage Crafts' work. As the business grew, more designers such as John Clayton and Peter Underhill brought their skills and expertise to Heritage Crafts and it is now one of the largest independent needlework companies in the UK, exporting to countries all over the world. Cross stitch kits from Heritage Crafts contain very clear charts and instructions, fabric, needle, and threads, which are already sorted onto cards, and there is always someone available on our helpline.

Designs featuring cats are always popular. Cross stitch is a very gentle, relaxing and rewarding hobby and it is surprising how many stitchers have cats to help them with their work. Cats seem to learn quickly that it is not a good idea to play with threads and

they find out that they get a lot of attention if they sit on the chart....

Susan has two British Blues, Timmy and Boris, who are brothers. Timmy helps with the stitching but Boris helps with the designing by walking across the computer keyboard. He can make the whole design turn upside down - something Susan can't do herself!

Peter Underhill is the 'cat man of Heritage Crafts' and has brought humour to the world of cross stitch. He is an immensely talented artist and his designs are included in the 'Cats Rule', range (Well, they do, don't they?) He has the ability to capture a cat's character and feelings, whether the cat is asleep, mischievous, demanding or just being sweet. Peter paints his pictures and Susan puts them into cross stitch - a job which she loves.

One of Peter's first designs for Heritage Crafts, 'Is That All?', is still as popular now as it was when it was introduced in 2008. How could you resist giving this cat more to eat, even though he is on a diet?

Peter likes to produce designs to which we humans can relate. 'I Don't Do Mornings' is one of these, and I think everyone knows how this cat feels!

Christmas has been the inspiration for several 'Cats Rule' designs. 'Christmas Kittens' is very appealing as is 'Catching Snowflakes', and 'Christmas Tangle' shows us what can happen if a kitten climbs the







Christmas tree.

Peter's designs also include cats who take on human activities such as 'The Choir'. We'd love to see Gareth Malone working with this lot! Each cat here has its own personality and are all enjoying singing, although we are not so sure about the little one with his music upside down!



your fingers.

The latest designer to join the Heritage team is Karen Carter, who is also a 'cat lady' and whose 'Catz & Co' designs are proving to be very popular.

Karen's cats are

very colourful and there's lots to see in the backgrounds, making them very interesting designs to stitch. Her cats all appear to be content and laid back but we all know that if they feel like it, they can shoot off like a rocket.

Susan's own cat designs for her 'Little Friends' range are 'Black and White Kitten' and 'Tabby Kitten'. Both are quick and easy to stitch and make perfect gifts for new stitchers and for the more experienced too.

Heritage Crafts believes that the 'personal touch' is very important and this shows in its designs and its contact with retailers, distributors and with the people who actually buy and stitch its kits. We know that many



Crazy Cat Lady



of you enjoy stitching our cat designs and if you get a few cat hairs in with the stitches, that's an added bonus.

• Visit [www.hcrafts.com](http://www.hcrafts.com)







# Limited 2 Art

For gallery owner Ruth Worsman, a passion for collecting art has developed into her current business venture

**T**en years after opening her gallery Limited 2 Art, Ruth Worsman celebrated the anniversary by opening a new gallery, in April 2014, at the Yorkshire Wildlife Park. But art has not always been her profession. "My background prior to opening the gallery was in two specific areas; firstly as a retail manager with Boots the Chemist for seven years then 16 years as a professional Appeal & Events manager for national charities. My husband and I started to buy quite a lot of art which then developed into a passion...which in turn led to opening the art gallery."

Ruth feels fortunate to have loved her work, whatever area it was in. "My art gallery is no exception. I am surrounded on a daily basis with beautiful art. My main role is to source the best artwork for both galleries so I use a mixture of what I like, along with preferences I know my clients like. I love introducing new talent like David Smith, especially since I now publish his work...a new venture for me."

Ruth believes their strength lies in great enthusiasm, product knowledge and being an independent gallery. "I think we are able to offer a personal service that is lacking in major corporate galleries. My customers are not just clients, they are friends."

Limited 2 Art is situated in the beautiful 12th century market town of Bawtry, South Yorkshire, populated with independent busi-



nesses and a destination for people from far and wide. "The gallery name came about as I wanted to convey that all we do is limited to art; that is all we concentrate our energy on - it 'does what it says on the tin', so to speak!"

So what does a typical day entail? "Each day is different; no two days are the same, which I love. Apart from basic hoovering, dusting and making sure all the pictures are hanging straight, I am constantly working on the website and social media platforms, and talking with customers and friends who pop in to see me and the art. Since bringing my dog to work, I find people come in to see the dog as well!"

Being sociable with customers is something Ruth really enjoys but it can have drawbacks. "I have had several clients who have bought a picture as a secret gift for a loved one and once I accidentally 'let the cat out of the bag'. Not my best moment."

The collaboration between Ruth and David Smith developed when David and his wife became customers of the gallery from the time it opened. "However, it was only several months ago that David approached me to view his own artwork. I didn't even know he painted! At first glance, I could see that his work would sell very well in my gallery, which we quickly agreed on. But the conversation quickly evolved into 'Ok, why don't we publish these and sell limited editions?'

"In the space of two months we have professionally scanned the originals, engaged the services of a local printer and organised a public showing of the debut collection. This has absolutely convinced me that we are doing the right thing."

Ruth has found the reaction to the venture overwhelming. "The beauty of David's work is that anyone who owns a cat, or maybe I should say anyone that is owned by a cat (!) will recognise the expressions on





these pictures. I think back to my own cats and I definitely had a 'Pampered', Tangled' and 'I'm Just Big Boned!'

Ruth is naturally a cat lover, having had over the years three British Blues, a Ragdoll and a Black Tipped British Shorthair. "However, for my 50th birthday, I got a dog, a Golden Doodle, who is great friends with my one remaining British Blue, Harvey."

Art is still Ruth's passion and as far as she is concerned, she can't see that changing. "I love introducing new art into the gallery and I am looking forward to continuing working to promote David Smith and help him become an established artist. As well as opening the new gallery at the Yorkshire Wildlife Park this year, who knows? If the right premises in the right location come up, maybe a third gallery could be in the offing!"

The limited edition prints of David's current collection are only available as a limited edition size of 25, meaning only 25 people in the UK will own a David Smith print. All prints are personally numbered and signed by David, complete with a certificate of authenticity. If required, David will also personally dedicate the back of the print with a special message, complete with doodle!

• Orders can be placed via either website [www.limited2art.com](http://www.limited2art.com) or [www.limited2animals.com](http://www.limited2animals.com) or you can phone the gallery on 01302 711189. [www.facebook.com/Limited2Art](https://www.facebook.com/Limited2Art)



## Capturing cats on canvas

While viewing the work of another artist, David Smith was encouraged and inspired to create his own collection of paintings

**A**s an artist, I accepted my first commission at 14 years of age. I have spent twenty years as a fully fledged professional artist and designer, working on 'It's a Cat's Life...' for one year."

When gallery owner Ruth Worsman invited David and his wife to a gallery opening, a conversation with the exhibiting artist about how he got started struck a chord. "Several in fact. There were many parallels between our career paths. A subsequent conversation with my wife came to the conclusion that I should attempt to come up with my own collection, sighting the old adage of 'Better to have tried and failed'..."

David's style is full of humour which he puts down to studying his subject. "I think my ability to observe, in this case cats, and put those observations down onto canvass in both a jovial and engaging manner is really where my strengths lie."

There is incredible attention to detail in each one of David's paintings. "Once the wife and kids are away to their respective work and school, music goes on, a pot of coffee gurgles away and the thousands of hairs that go into each and every cat begin. Some have between 200 - 300 hairs per square inch."

David knew Ruth was the obvious choice to confirm the viability of his own collection. "Little did either of us expect that this would lead to Ruth's

first foray into publishing."

The career of an artist can be difficult as well as diverse. "I have been lucky enough to work with Disney and 'The Simpsons' through to computer games, painting wall murals and a collection of exciting oils in the country's newest wildlife park."

Regardless of theme, all the cats in the paintings are based on cats David and his wife have owned, those of friends or those that simply visited their home. "The black and white cat in 'I'm getting too old for this...' is a perfect example. This chap welcomed us to our first home and spent nearly a year visiting and behaving like one of the family. As for 'Tangled', the luxuriant tail depicted in the painting had a small degree of artistic licence. Charlie, our neighbour's cat, had an unfortunate accident with a motor vehicle which left him resembling more Manx cat than the fine fellow you see before you."

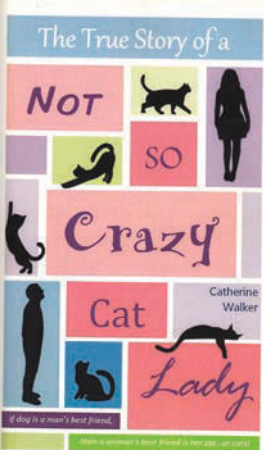
Yet the family don't currently have any pets, other than a fish pond. "The ginger tom though, in 'Hang on in there', is based on our own huge tom cat, Jasper who on regular occasions could get himself into a pickle. Sadly no longer with us, it was only right that he was immortalised in my very first oil collection."

David did reveal though that he has plans to include a Maine Coon in the family in the near future, adding: "But don't tell the wife!"

• [facebook/theartofdavidsmith](https://www.facebook.com/theartofdavidsmith)







**The True Story of a Not So Crazy Cat Lady**  
by Catherine Walker

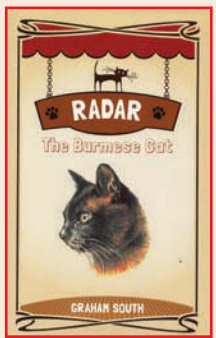
We have all fallen in love and had our hearts broken but Harriet will never forget the four legged friends who stood beside her through it all.

Available from Amazon.co.uk  
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Kindle edition £2.55  
ISBN: 9781502819559

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*Merry Christmas  
to all our readers*



### Cat gifts for cat lovers at Tattypuss

Tattypuss are an independent shop selling original and high quality presents, gifts and lovely things for cat lovers. Their website [www.tattypuss.co.uk](http://www.tattypuss.co.uk) showcases a wide selection of cool cat jewellery, cards, mugs, cups, glasses, bags, scarves and art.

"We are very proud of our independent status. We focus on originality and quality, and we provide an exceptional customer service."

Looking for a present for someone who's a bit off-the-wall? How about this unique brass and bronze jewellery. Handmade by Penny Williams, each piece is wholly unique and something to be treasured for years ahead.

Put the fun back into functional this Christmas with this sumptuous soft leather purse by Ciccia. It has everything you want in a purse including seven card slots, an I.D slot, two note pockets, a zipped coin compartment and six slide-in slots.

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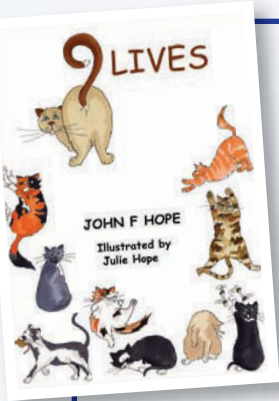
• All available from [www.tattypuss.co.uk](http://www.tattypuss.co.uk). Tattypuss supplies gifts and cards that are just that little bit different.





# Book reviews

Get your Christmas reading started with our selection of books for the purrrfect Christmas read or buy one for a friend to make their Christmas special.



## Nine Lives

By John Hope

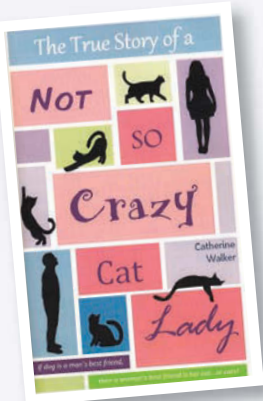
Nine Lives is an enchanting read for any cat loving adult or older child with a sense of whimsy. Written in a delightful narrative, it tells the story of nine cats and their understanding of us, their human servants. The reader is led in the paw prints of Bunni, navigating the unnerving realm of humans and the day to day hazards of encounters with their mysterious objects.

We are educated eloquently in Khat Language and Khat Lore, as Bunni guides her companions on a very special mission under the auspices of the cat deity, Lord Tabithat - a feline odyssey in the genre of the grand adventure of Watership Down.

All the cats featured were pets of John and his late wife, Julie - who produced the charming illustrations - and the story, set in South Africa and in the UK, spans 36 years. John and Julie have published three successful books with Bantam: Christmas Carols for Cats; Nursery Rhymes for Cats; and Christmas Crackers for Cats.

Nine Lives was originally published in 2010 but has now been revised and is also available on Kindle:

• [http://www.amazon.co.uk/Nine-Lives-ebook/dp/B00E0GVAEA/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1375094595&sr=1-1&keywords=john+hope+nine+lives](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Nine-Lives-ebook/dp/B00E0GVAEA/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1375094595&sr=1-1&keywords=john+hope+nine+lives)



## The True Story of a Not So Crazy Cat Lady

By Catherine Walker

To some, being the owner of a few cats earns the title of 'crazy cat lady' but to those of us who share our lives with them, we know that the relationship with our four legged friends runs deeper than that.

This book follows the tribulations of a young woman called Harriet, who in one fell swoop finds herself plummeted from the life of a happy wife to a broken hearted divorcee. On a cold wet day, not long afterwards, she discovers a litter of abandoned kittens, discarded in a cardboard box. Relating to their vulnerability, she decides to take them in and she finds that caring for them helps to mend her broken heart.

As she moves on with her life, she meets the man who seems to be the answer to all her problems but finds herself locked in a love triangle between boy, girl and cat, all

the while trying to shrug off the label of the crazy cat lady.

This book has been written with real feeling and Catherine obviously has a true understanding of emotions that come with an ended relationship. Ultimately though, the book is a love story, focussing on new beginnings and the life style changes that these bring. There are troubles along the way, with important decisions to be made and with every word, the reader feels a bond to Harriet and hopes for a happy ending.

• Available in paperback at £6.65 or in a Kindle edition at £2.55, from [Amazon.co.uk](http://Amazon.co.uk) ISBN: 9781502819659

You can also find *The True Story of A Not So Crazy Cat Lady* on Facebook

### About the author:

Catherine Walker was born in Staffordshire, England. A country girl, she loves animals and the great outdoors, and currently lives in Southern France. The True Story of a Not So Crazy Cat Lady was short listed in the Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award 2014.

## Radar the Burmese Cat

By Graham South

This compilation of charming tales gives the reader an insight into Radar's life from the time he joins Mr & Mrs South. Based on true-life occurrences, we hear of Radar's mischievous antics and discover what he likes doing best; from practicing his tree climbing skills to enjoying rides in a wheelbarrow.

We soon come to realise that this beautiful Burmese cat is very independent and does not always do as he is told but one thing is certain, he loves life to the full.

The book has been written for children and the stories are very endearing. They are told in a way that is warm and friendly, with situations that children will understand and identify with. In fact, Radar stories have been road-tested by children at a local middle school and given the thumbs-up.

There are also some lovely black and white illustrations throughout, including a map of Radar's world.

Hardback: 216 x 135mm. £7.99. ISBN: 978-1-84624-954-9

• Available from Book Guild Publishing [www.bookguild.co.uk](http://www.bookguild.co.uk)

### About the author

Graham South lives in a village in East Anglia, not very far from Cambridge Airport, where for many years he flew business, executive and survey aircraft. He lives with another cat now; one that just appeared one day and decided the house and occupant appeared acceptable, and moved in!







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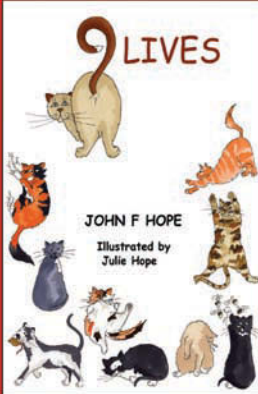
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## Books raise funds for holistic cat rescue

Morley Cat rescue was formed four years ago to deal with the rising number of stray street cats and semi ferals that the other cat charities in the area could not seem to cope with. But they are a charity with a difference as the founder, Morwenna Holman, has done a degree course in holistic medicines and pet nutrition and the Rescue wanted to apply this healthy slant to the cats in their care.

"After four years we have proved that a raw, healthy diet not only results in fantastic condition and health for the cats in our charity but the vet bills are practically diminished. We feed raw frozen meat, thawing it and feeding immediately so that the cats have the nearest diet to that which they would consume in the wild. To make up any shortfall we use a product called Pet Plus

which is practically given to us by the wonderful raw diet

expert Suzy McIntyre and this boosts the health of a lot of our cats who have to live on the streets and in people's gardens due to the fact that we do not have the money or the land to build a cattery."

This is where the books came in, as author Morwenna J. Holman has been a spirit writer since the age of 18, when she first communed with the spirit of Emily Bronte for her book 'Westerdale'. It remained unpublished for several years, for a variety of reasons, but an idea was formed when Morwenna set up the Rescue.

"We put the book to print in order to raise funds for a mobile home and some land which we hope will provide shelter for the growing number of cats in our care that live wild. Now we are about to publish our fourth book and will continue until we have sufficient funds to house our stray cats and keep them until loving homes can be found for them. We NEVER put a cat down unless the situation is hopeless and have kept FIV and FEL cats alive for many months and years.

We visit the cats on sites, night and morning, with food and water and are slowly getting temporary shelters such as kennels for them as the cold weather comes in. Although one of the only holistic shelters in the country, we do use conventional treatment if we have to but many of the cats are treated holistically with supplements such as aloe vera for coat and digestive problems and chlorella for poor condition and appetite.

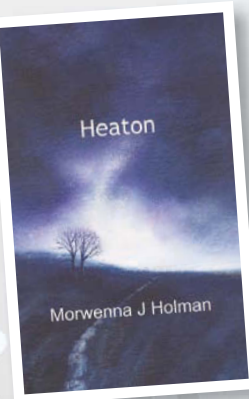
As well as Morley Cat Rescue, we wanted to help the wonderful Torre Argentine Cat Rescue at AISPA as my late father supported their work, being an Italian. This rescue is very much overlooked as the people there are totally devoted to the cause and the charity is set in the Roman ruins, with many cats being cared for there (see website [www.aispa.org.uk](http://www.aispa.org.uk) for more details). So we decided to halve the royalties between ourselves and this wonderful rescue.

The tiny kitten in the photo is Cass - a dear little soul whose mother was abandoned and left to starve despite being pregnant. Sadly she lost most of her kittens but we sat up with little Cass for three weeks and pulled him through! Cilla, his mum, is now gaining strength too as she profits from good food and care. This is just one of the many many cats we are caring for - some 49 at present."

### The books

Westerdale, its sequel Heaton and a further book, Rainharrow, all deal with human struggles and dramas, love and treachery, life and adventure, set against a back drop of the plants and animals of the countryside, all beautifully described by Morwenna.

All three titles are available through Amazon and retail for around £5 - £8, with all royalties going to aid the cats at Morley Cat Rescue.



## Three delightful stories by Heather Cook

### Evie's Diary

Evie's Diary is an entertaining look at life from the eyes of a rescue cat with attitude.

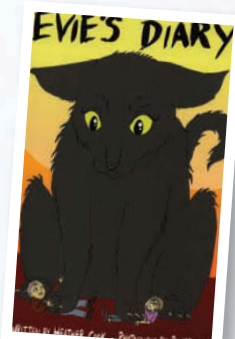
There are kind cats, friendly cats, even hero cats and then there are cats like Evie, who consider themselves infinitely superior to the human race.

Adopted by a human involved in rescuing unwanted cats, Evie finds herself living with a weird array of felines including Benjamin Wobble, a porky ginger boy with mobility problems; Bella, a Persian resembling a hairy beetroot and the ancient, fur-covered coathanger, Bonnie Bun-Bun. Evie has harsh things to say about these creepy cats that suck up to the humans in return for goodies and cuddles, but has a grudging admiration for the wild cats that rampage around the garden.

Evie delights in tormenting the numerous waifs and strays. Occasionally, she is impressed by the appalling behaviour of these temporary residents, such as Frank, the blue-eyed vandal that imprisons the Earth Mother in the garage, and Griselda, the gorgeous girl that specialises in remodelling people's faces.

Evie recounts their adventures with sulky contempt, which makes for an interesting and amusing account of life viewed through her eyes.

● Available from Amazon or [www.troubador.co.uk](http://www.troubador.co.uk)

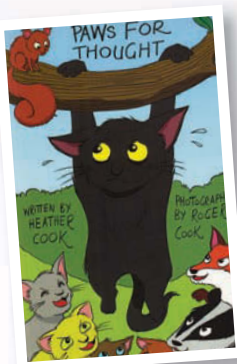


### Paws for Thought

Paws for Thought by Heather Cook explores the hijinks of Stumpy Malone, a little black cat born without hind paws

Stumpy Malone doesn't think of himself as disabled and often wonders why other cats have those funny, blobby things on the end of their back legs. He takes a robust view of life - a life he shares with two extremely challenged humans, the Earth Mother (EM) and Poor Roger (PR), along with a cast of felines. There is the lumpy ginger boy, Benjamin Wobble, who has mobility problems and a tendency to be over-friendly. Miss Elizabeth has heart problems but reminds everyone of her 'Head Monitor' status at every opportunity. Then there's Whizzy who lost a leg in a traffic accident, and many others, none of whom could be described as 'normal'.

Stumpy has an insatiable appetite for





life and gets into a number of scrapes, driving the humans mad with worry. When they aren't worrying about Bonni Bun-Bun's dementia and cats sabotaging telephones and computers, EM and PR are frequently searching for Stumpy, who proves that two paws are all a cat needs to cause a lot of trouble...

"I was inspired by Stumpy Malone's indomitable spirit. He was a tiny black kitten, born without hind paws, who was rescued in the nick of time from a garden along with his half-starved mother and sibling. I've always found cats rewarding and amusing animals and Stumpy Malone just demanded to be written about," said Heather, on the motivation for writing her book.

Published in October 2013, Paws for Thought is priced at £7.99

## From Sidcup with Purrs

This is another wonderful book by Heather Cook and follows the adventures of a new rescue cat and her life at Tresta Towers.

The story centres around Tiny, a small abandoned cat who has had to fend for herself from the very beginning. Born brain damaged, deaf and with a slight head-tilt, you would think that life had dealt her enough blows but combine all this with an unhappy first home leading to her being abandoned on the streets and you are left wondering 'what next?'.

You will not be surprised to hear that Tiny knows no fear, which makes her a danger to herself and others but by a pure twist of fate, she comes to live at Tresta Towers. With the help of the Earth Mother, Poor Roger and the rest of the Special Needs felines, her extraordinary talents are revealed.

Tiny is such a character, with a huge personality and her triumphs are proof that a tough start in life and disabilities can't hold back a brave cat with a world to conquer.

The book is written from Tiny's perspective but is based on true life experiences.

Laughter and love are constant features in this heart warming tale and we also hear again of Evie and Stumpy, from Heather's first two books. This is a humorous work of adult fiction that will appeal to feline lovers everywhere.

## About the author:

Heather Cook fostered unwanted cats and kittens for Woking Branch of Cats Protection for nearly 30 years and has found new homes for thousands of waifs and strays. She was honoured to be chosen as the charity's Volunteer of the Year in 2011.



## Purring Angels

'the book for cat-lovers'

By Marguerite Vlieland

Cats are wonderful. We can learn so much from them.

In the first part of 'Purring Angels' you will read all about Marguerite's seven kitties: Daimke and Catje, who have had such a difficult start in their lives; Chummy, her golden eyed British Gentleman; Puddie, the eldest, who writes beautiful letters with much wisdom to his pen friends; Donsje, the sweetest cat on earth, who becomes a real film star; Mickje who was thrown over the gate, thin and injured, who learned how it is to be loved; Tommeke, her 'wild' Belgian Forest Cat who joins Marguerite later and loves her with all his heart and Luckje who stayed only for a year.

Marguerite tells us about stray cats and the good work the people who take care of them do. Just read what happened to Ophelia. There are also wonderful poems and stories throughout the book - the ones about the Rainbow Bridge give so much comfort.

In the second part of the book, Marguerite talks about her own battle with anorexia and how her animals saved her by urging her to fight and eat. The next chapters deal with the upbringing of cats and include many interesting facts about them.

## About the author

Marguerite had a lovely youth on a manor of 1800 hectares, where her father was the steward. She loved working on the land, took long walks with the dogs along the river, went horse riding, swimming, etc. She was a very happy child, surrounded by animal friends, always in close and special contact with them. They were her most important teachers. They taught her the real meaning of friendship, unconditional love, loyalty and the real value of life! Their love is Love with a capital 'L'.

Her dearest wish was to have a cat. This dream materialised when Puddie came into her life. Puddie, her beautiful king-cat! He was the first of her eight cats, the co-authors of Purring Angels. Luckje and Donsje soon followed. Then came Mickje, sick and starving, who was thrown over the fence into the garden. Chummeke, Daimke, Catje and Tommeke followed later.

Marguerite has had 30 years of anorexia and was saved by the unconditional love of her angel animals: "Not all angels have wings". Now she dedicates her life to helping cats in distress. She writes about them, gives information about them, advises people how to keep their kitties happy and promotes spaying and neutering, one of the most important things to prevent unhappy cats.

It is her profound wish that her book may help cats by informing people. Part of the proceeds from Purring Angels will go to help kittens in distress.







## Meow

A book of happiness for cat lovers.

By Anouska Jones

This book contains a delightful collection of quotes and observations that capture the essence of life where there is a feline presence. Cats have a way of walking into our lives and making themselves at home, and this book is a collection of quotes that all cat lovers will treasure.

Some are philosophical and some are light-hearted, all are memorable. There are even some famous quotes from the likes of Mark Twain, Jean Cocteau and Ernest Hemingway.

The book is available in hardback and has some stunningly beautiful photography.

Presented in a high quality-gift format, this book will make the ideal Christmas Gift for all cat lovers everywhere.

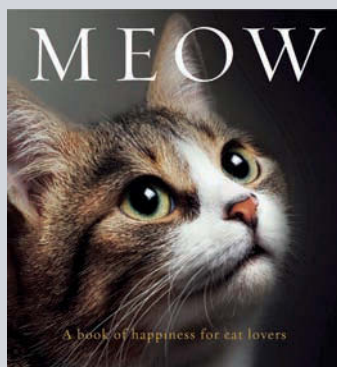
The Cat World team loved this book; the photographs are wonderful, capturing cats in situations and positions that only a cat owner will understand and identify with. The quotes vary in style; some are funny and made us smile, others made us nod with agreement and empathy. Definitely a 'must have' for any cat lover.

£12.95 hardback. ISBN: 978 1 921966576

• [www.exislepublishing.co.uk](http://www.exislepublishing.co.uk)

## About the author:

Anouska Jones is a cat-loving book editor, who has worked in publishing for over twenty years. She compiled the quotes from a range of sources, while her own cat kept close watch from her vantage point on Anouska's desk.



## Simon Ships Out

By Jacky Donovan

### How a stowaway helped the Royal Navy

When Simon, a mischievous young cat, is smuggled aboard HMS Amethyst, his simple life amidst the streets of Hong Kong is transformed into an adventure fit for heroes.

Based on a true story, Simon Ships Out follows the bizarre life of a heroic puss who went from a stowaway street cat to the hero of the Royal Navy when his ship was captured by Chinese Communists in the famous Yangtze Incident of 1949.

For 101 days the brave sailors were under siege, desperate for home and fighting to survive against heavy gunfire and dwindling rations. Then came their biggest battle – rats.

They needed a miracle – so Simon licked his gunshot wounds and risked all his nine lives to help the sailors survive a daring escape.

His service to his country made Simon the world's first celebrity cat and the only puss to ever receive the treasured PDSA Dickin Medal – 65 years ago, in November.

Now in an extraordinary reimagining, Simon Ships Out tells the remarkable tale, or should that be tail, from Simon's side for the first time, giving cat lovers a fun and charming cat's eye view of the Navy's little fluffy hero.

• **Simon Ships Out: A heroic cat at sea - based on a true story.**

**Price: £7.99 paperback, £2.99 ebook**

*(Lilette is a female cat and Peggy is the ship's dog.)*

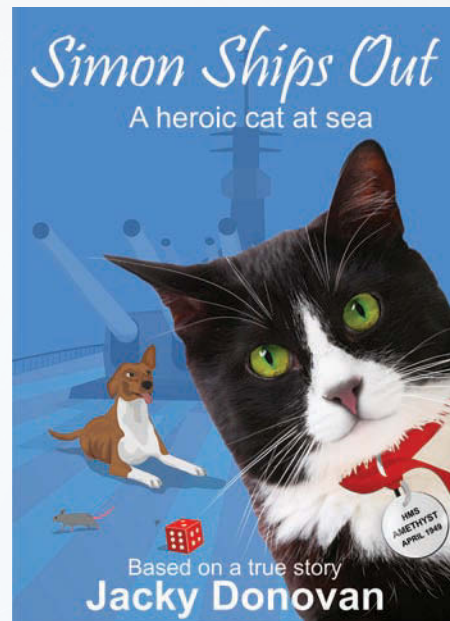
'What about you?' the man says to me. 'Do you want to have a nice brush too?'

I stand there and stare at him. I don't really want to go over.

Lilette stares at me. 'Go on,' she nods. 'Haven't you ever been brushed before?'

No, I haven't. I like to clean myself. I don't know if I would like a human to do it for me. Do humans clean each other, I wonder.

The woman looks down at me and smiles. 'It does feel marvellous.' Perhaps humans do



brush each other then... How odd.

And so I creep over to the man. He pats his knee. I look over at Lilette again and then jump up on him.

He brushes my back and belly. Sometimes, he has to brush quite hard and pull. 'You've got a few clumps in here,' he says. 'Have you fallen in the sea?' I can see some of my hairs in the brush. I hope he doesn't brush me away completely.

He gives my head a little brush and I can feel all my fur spring up. I think I prefer cleaning myself to be honest but I want to look brave in front of Lilette.

'There you go,' the man says after a while and puts the brush down. 'Looks like you've been in the wars a little, but you're all ship-shape now.'

I might not know what the wars are, but I know I am not the shape of a ship.

## About Jacky:

She might not have nine lives but author Jacky Donovan does have a few. Having become bored with being a 'Stepford' housewife in Southampton, Jacky packed her bags and headed to London just over a decade ago. She's now an established author and, more importantly, mad about cats.

## Fabulous competition prize: Your cat's story in print

### Tales of bravery

Is your cat a hero? Does he or she have a tale of adventure and bravery?

Jacky is offering one lucky reader the chance to have their cat's heroic story written up by her, from the cat's point of view, for the winning reader to keep.

So get putting pen to paper (or should we say fingers to keypad!) and send us a brief summary of your cat's own brave deed. Entries can be submitted by email to [editor@catworld.co.uk](mailto:editor@catworld.co.uk) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/Cat-World-Magazine](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cat-World-Magazine). Deadline for receiving entries is 31st January 2015.



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# CHRISTMAS AND winter safety

We all look forward to some festive fun at this time of year. A few quick checks can make sure that your pets have fun too and are kept safe from hidden dangers

*Sonja K Steiner*

**W**hilst most of us look forward to the festive season filled with fun, laughter and presents, for cats it can be a time of anxiety and hazards, so how can we prepare to enjoy this time and cause the least amount of stress to our feline friends?

Most types of Christmas tree only have a low level of toxicity but if chewed, needles may cause gastrointestinal upset (vomiting or diarrhoea) or even intestinal perforation. Ideally choose a tree with 'non drop' needles, vacuum regularly and water the tree to prevent it drying out which will minimise needle drop; you should avoid leaving your cat unsupervised in the room where your tree is. Artificial snow is best avoided if you have cats as that is also toxic.

If you have a destructive or very inquisitive cat or kitten that is prone to chewing, then be extra careful if you have Christmas lights. Check your lights for signs of fraying or chewing before putting them up. Your cat could get an electrical shock if they try to chew through the electric cable and this could cause tongue lacerations and possible death.

It is best to place candles in a more difficult to reach area so your cat cannot access them. Not only could your cat burn themselves but they could knock them over creating a fire hazard and may leave a trail of hot wax that will easily burn the pads of the paws. Don't leave a burning candle unsupervised.

Whilst cats will rarely eat poisonous plants such as festive berries, holly, lilies, mistletoe and poinsettia due to them being unpalatable, if they brush past them there is a chance that the cat could lick their coat, ingesting some and since

these are all toxic to cats, it is advisable keep them well out of their reach.

Inquisitive cats will be intrigued by the decorations on your Christmas tree. Whilst ribbon and tinsel themselves are not toxic, it is very attractive to cats; the shiny dangling decoration reflects light and can move with the slightest draft which is very appealing to playful kitties. If they were to be eaten, it could cause choking or if it twists and bunches inside them, causing an intestinal obstruction, it would require immediate veterinary attention otherwise it could be fatal.

A cat was brought into see Mark Buxton at Vets4Pets. The owner had seen him playing with ribbon and noticed it was shredded, with chunks missing. Over the next few hours, the cat became lethargic, was not eating or drinking and was trying to vomit. He was immediately admitted to the vets where an x-ray revealed that the ribbon had bunched up, causing an obstruction. The ribbon was successfully removed and the cat went onto make a full recovery.

Baubles (especially glass ones) and paper ornaments on the tree are another play thing for a cat. However these can be easily knocked off the tree which may cause them to smash and shatter on the floor potentially causing an injury to your

cat or your cat could chew and swallow these fragile objects, so not only can these broken pieces have sharp edges that may lacerate your pets mouth, throat and intestines, they could also create a choking hazard. If possible, try and place them higher up on the tree.

Remove your Christmas wrapping paper and any toys from the floor to avoid your cat chewing or swallowing them!

Ingestion of batteries is more common at this time of year and although more prevalent in dogs, they have been found in cats too. If the battery is chewed and pierced it can cause chemical burns and heavy metal poisoning and if swallowed whole it is possible they will cause an obstruction.

All batteries are potentially toxic so if you suspect your cat has chewed or swallowed a battery speak to your veterinary surgeon. Some camera and watch batteries are particularly small.

## Party time!

Cats like nothing more than peace, quiet and routine so it is worth considering that loud noises such as





## FOODS TO AVOID

Food can be another hazard for your feline friend; here is a list of foods to avoid.

### Sweet:

- Chocolate toxicity is the most common problem seen during the festive period. It is highly toxic as it contains a substance called theobromine. It is present in all chocolate and the higher the cocoa content, the more toxic the chocolate, so dark chocolate is the worst. Cats who ingest chocolate can suffer from heart problems, muscle tremors or seizures. If you have wrapped up presents by the tree which contain chocolate, it is advisable to keep them out of the way of your cat.
- Two weeks ago a cat was brought into Mark at Vets4Pets as it had eaten chocolate cake! It was given a drug to induce vomiting and monitored for several hours afterwards and fortunately made a full recovery.
- Grapes and raisins are found in many festive foods such as Christmas cake, pudding and mince pies and can cause kidney failure.

### Savoury:

- Onion and garlic can all be toxic to cats as they contain compounds which destroy red blood cells.
- Nuts are poisonous to many pets including cats and their consumption should be avoided. Blue cheese is another food not to give your cat.
- Giving your cat some of your Christmas dinner can also cause problems. Cats have quite sensitive digestive systems and don't tend to cope well with sudden changes. They are not used to eating rich and high fat foods and are very sensitive to salt; as a result they can suffer from indigestion and in some cases vomiting and diarrhoea.
- It is best not to encourage them to eat leftover human food or treats. If you want to make your cat feel part of the festive spirit, there are special cat treats available but these should only be given in moderation.
- Be wary if you are having turkey as the bones can cause choking, constipation or damage to your cat's intestines.
- If you are at all concerned that your feline friend has eaten any of the above foods then seek immediate veterinary advice.

Christmas crackers, party poppers, balloons and champagne bottles could cause upset to your cat and reason for them to panic. When exposed to unexpected noises, cats try to escape, mostly by running away or hiding. If you are having a party with a few visitors, then make sure you have a quiet room in the house or places where your cat can hide and will feel safe and secure. If your cat is particularly nervous, then it may be worth considering using a product that replicates their own natural pheromones and helps induce a calming effect.

### Outdoors

One of the other hazards to consider during the cold winter months is anti-freeze as ingestion is very dangerous and life threatening. Please keep antifreeze out of the reach of your cat. Some cats crawl under wheel arches or climb into vehicle engines for warmth whilst out on their travels.

If you leave your car on the drive and it is a cold, frosty or snowy morning we would automatically reach for the de-icer so just as a precautionary measure, it is worth being vigilant and checking under the bonnet of your vehicle. Tap on the bonnet, just to make sure a cat has not made their way underneath, before you spray the de-icer on.

Cats would be drawn to the sweet taste and the palatability of anti-freeze. Even a very small quantity can cause serious kidney damage and be fatal. Unfortunately, the longer the delay between the ingestion and the start of treatment, the less favourable the outcome.

Try to avoid salt and chemical melting products on your driveway as these can be toxic to cats and harmful to the paws. If the cat cleans themselves they could ingest the products so if your cat has been outside, wipe your cat's paws thor-

oughly to remove any residue.

When it is cold, cats can look for shelter in sheds, garages and outbuildings so keep the doors either firmly shut or wedged open, so that cats do not become trapped. More cats tend to go missing in the winter months; many lose their bearings, so if your cat is not yet micro-chipped it is definitely worth considering and if your cat is already micro-chipped and your details such as address or phone number have changed then contact the company they are registered with to get them updated. If your cat goes missing and is found, you can be reunited much quicker.

In the winter try to let your cat outside when temperatures are warmer and avoid the peak hour traffic levels. Check your cat flap on a regular basis to ensure it has not frozen over or become blocked by snow. Try to keep your cat in during the dark hours when there is a greater risk of cats being involved in road traffic accidents, theft and physical attacks.

A lot more people are setting off fireworks on New Years Eve so it is best to try and keep your cat inside and where they feel safe and secure and to minimise their stress levels.

Always consider taking out an insurance policy for your cat, they are definitely worth the peace of mind.

If your cat is on regular medication or prescription food make sure you have enough to get you through the festive season.

Prevention as they say is better than cure and as long as cat owners are aware of the hazards you can prevent your feline friend from coming to harm so you can all enjoy the festive and winter period.

Sonja, Willow & Suki would like to wish all Cat World readers, human and feline friends alike a very Happy Christmas! 🐾





# LION ARK ROARS into UK cinemas



**L**ion Ark, the multi-award winning film which charts the dramatic rescue and relocation of 25 lions from circuses in Bolivia by the organisation Animal Defenders International is set to land in cinemas across the UK during November and December. Cinemagoers will be among the first to see what has been touted by critics as the 'feel good movie of the year' and rescue team leaders, Lion Ark Director Tim Phillips and Producer Jan Creamer are visiting the UK too.

More action adventure style than tra-

ditional documentary, feel-good movie Lion Ark charts one of the world's most ambitious and daring animal rescues, as a team from Britain's Animal Defenders International (ADI) swoops on eight illegal circuses spread across Bolivia following a ban.

Lion Ark Director Tim Phillips said: "We wanted Lion Ark to entertain and inspire but also to have audiences laughing - this is not your traditional documentary - it's a rollercoaster ride which will have you cheering for the lions as the rescuers defy the odds to bring them to freedom."

A smash hit on the international film festival circuit, winning six awards, Lion Ark is told through live action interviews, in the moment, as events unfold. This is up close and personal, in the thick of the action; you are as close as you can get to these animals and to understanding their life in the circus and feel the fear and joy of the rescuers as they journey through their incredible mission.

The Lion Ark rescue mission was backed by Emmy award-winning US TV 'Price is Right' game show host Bob Barker and CSI actress Jorja Fox ('Sara Sidle'), whose company Seafox Productions is an Associate Producer

and both appear in the film. Bob Barker's support enabled the rescue team to empty Bolivia of its suffering circus animals and build new homes for them in the US.

A similarly ambitious rescue operation - Spirit of Freedom - is now underway in Peru, where ADI is once again assisting authorities to enforce an animal circus ban, having successfully secured the legislation. ADI currently has 22 lions and 11 primates in its care, and audiences will hear the very latest news. 🐾



● Lion Ark has recently been signed into distribution for television and DVD but if you can't wait for that, the remaining dates when you can see the film are: Bristol (Nov 28); Guildford (Dec 1); London - West End Gala Screening (6 Dec); Colchester (Dec 9); New Brighton, Merseyside (Dec 11); Brixton (Dec 15); Southampton (Dec 17).

● Go to [www.lionarkthemovie.com/](http://www.lionarkthemovie.com/) screenings for tickets and screening details.

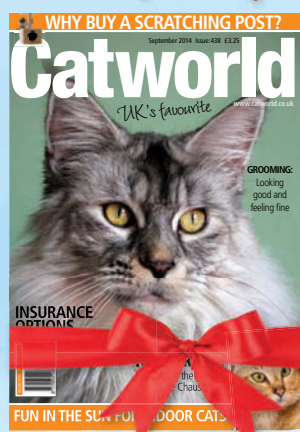






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# CATS AND THE *changing seasons*

Lorraine Schofield has noticed a definite change in her feline companions as the colder weather starts to arrive

**L**ike many people, I find that as autumn arrives and the days become darker and colder, my daily routine alters accordingly so that I spend less time outdoors and more time in the warmth of the indoors. This is also the case for my three cats Tibbles, Toby and Mia. Gone are hours of basking in the sunshine (Toby's favourite pastime) or pouncing and hunting in the field in front of my house and instead, all three of my cats are now seeking the warmth and comfort of the indoors, characterised by endless naps in cosy places.

Therefore cats, just like ourselves, are not immune to the changes that the seasons bring and there have definitely been noticeable changes in their collective behaviour. Tibbles, my senior puss, has undoubtedly been sleeping more and I have to say, also eating more, as his appetite is currently insatiable! I

know that I myself often feel hungrier during colder weather and it seems that Tibbles is just the same.

However, before I regale Tibbles for his gluttony, according to scientists, a cat's desire for extra food in winter is entirely normal and can be explained by the hormonal changes that are taking place within its body in response to the changes in light and temperature that autumn brings. Thus although feral cats are more affected by the change in seasons due to their living outdoors, domestic cats are also affected by the seasons although admittedly to a lesser extent.

In Tibbles' defence, rather than regarding his behaviour as greedy, from a biological perspective he is actually only eating extra food in order to store fat that will not only keep him warm during the winter months but would also mean that he could survive the

winter should food supplies be lean. If he was a feral cat, it would be highly likely that food might be scarce during winter and as such, eating more in the autumn is a survival tactic. However as cosseted domestic cat, Tibbles is unlikely to face a scarcity of food and certainly not judging by my weekly expenditure on cat food!

Nonetheless, having a biological explanation for his apparent gluttony certainly helps me to make sense of his behaviour and demonstrates that we should be aware of how the seasons affect our cats. Indeed, animal experts state that in order to avoid the problem of feline obesity we should perhaps feed our cats less in the summer months to compensate for this increased autumn appetite.

Undoubtedly my feline family are now spending much more time indoors and their desire for warmth has led to all sorts of changes in where they sleep, as the cosier a spot the better. For Tibbles this means that every evening, after he has eaten, he struts imperiously over to the gas fire in my front room and gives me a pointed stare until



I switch it on. Following this, Tibbles will bask in its warmth all evening and loves to stretch out, often with all four of his paws in the air which makes both an amusing and heart warming sight, despite my hefty gas bills!

Toby meanwhile has been in competition with Mia for the fur lined beds that I recently purchased but Mia appears to be commandeering both so that now Toby will not use either if they are vacant. Thus instead, Toby has found that my lap top is a nice cosy spot and takes every opportunity when my back is turned to jump on it and enjoy its warmth. Not only has he mixed up some of the settings on my computer but he also becomes very grumpy each time I remove him from it and close the lid!

Spending more time indoors has also exacerbated the feline tension problems within my home because although I have had Mia for above two months, she is still a most hesitant cat and most certainly displays a certain distaste for Toby. Indeed, during the past couple of weeks, the fur has literally been flying in my home and I have been woken on several occasions by their little night time spats. Fortunately, Mia and Tibbles seem to get along fine although Mia still reserves the occasional hiss for Tibbles' benefit!

I am hoping that this winter turns out to be as mild as last year's because otherwise I can see myself frequently being awoken by spats as Mia and Toby seek night time sanctuary indoors. The changing seasons have definitely altered my cats' behaviour and routines but I have to say that despite the tensions, I am enjoying having them inside more, especially when Tibbles snuggles down with me on the sofa for our nightly cuddle or Toby makes the occasional appearance on my lap. Mia is still definitely a work in progress but I am optimistic of a thaw very soon! 🐾



## SureFlap® launches its SureFeed® MICROCHIP PET FEEDER

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The feeder will ensure that pets eat from their own bowl, making it ideal for pets on special diets and those that are on medication or on a weight management programme. It will also stop other pets from stealing food. Indeed, the side guards and the folding lid create a barrier around the bowl when the feeder is open to shield food from other pets when it is eating. The eye-catching SureFeed bowl is available in four colours and features a unique integrated seal to help keep food fresher for longer and the house free of smells, flies and insects. The feeder is easy to clean and the mat and lid can be removed and washed.

"The SureFeed Microchip Pet Feeder provides owners with the versatility to feed their pets whatever their requirements, from those on special diets to animals in multi-pet households that have their food stolen," said Dr Nick Hill, founder and managing director at SureFlap. "The new SureFeed Microchip Pet Feeder is the first in a range of innovative pet feeders from SureFlap with additional products in the pipeline."

● For further information on the SureFeed Microchip Pet Feeder or the company's microchip operated pet products, including its innovative SureFlap microchip pet doors, please visit [www.sureflap.com](http://www.sureflap.com) phone 01954 211664 or email [enquiries@sureflap.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sureflap.co.uk).







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# THE ABC OF A *stress-free Christmas*

Follow our handy tips to the letter and avoid the unnecessary hassle that can spoil this happy time of year

**A** is for Attention. Less attention is often paid to household pets at Christmas and New Year, simply because there are so many other things crying out for it. This is a hectic time of year in many ways, but our feline friends still need us and, as is now generally accepted, simply stroking a pet, if they are happy for you to, can relieve some of that stress which builds up in both species.

**B** is for Bones; more specifically those associated with the roast dinner. Cats may steal the carcass after carving, whilst the family tuck in, because it is very tempting if left sat on a work-top. The bones from turkey and other poultry will be easy for cats to eat but do splinter and can cause vets no end of problems, from the mouth through to the rear end, so to speak. Best avoided!

**C** is for Candles, which should never be left unattended and especially if your cat is in the room. The flickering flame may attract your cat's attention and she may wave a paw at it, at least burning herself and potentially knocking over the candle with alarming consequences.

**D** is for Dark mornings and evenings. Owners should try to keep their cats in overnight once they have come in for tea because the long hours of darkness increase the chances of a cat being hit by a car. Reflective collars are very effective but do ensure they are safety collars and correctly fitted to avoid any nasty injuries from catching a leg or lower jaw in the collar.

**E** is for Emergency service – make sure you know how to contact your veterinary practice in an emergency over the festive period. There will be a 24/7

service but arrangements may differ from usual to account for members of staff taking time off and public holidays.

**F** is for Fireworks and crackers which may cause cats to run off in fright. If you know your cat does not like crackers, then either ban them from your house or ensure your cat is not within earshot. Be aware of any plans for fireworks displays in your neighbourhood so that you can be sure to keep your cat in from late afternoon onwards, with a litter tray. The safest precaution is, again, to keep your cat in during the hours of darkness over the festive period.

**G** is for Guests and visitors, meaning that your cat may not like strange people visiting the house and not everyone likes cats! Providing a bolt-hole for your cat, with a litter tray, is the best course of action. If your cat is really upset by visitors then you might want to consider putting it in a cattery. It may seem a shame, because they are part of the family, but might be the kindest course of action for an individual cat.

**H** is for Holidays and the change in routine for everyone, with children home from school and increasingly excited about Christmas, and adults taking time off work. Traffic flow can vary and be less busy in the mornings but heavier mid-morning and afternoon as people go out to shop etc. This can confuse the road-aware cat and vets do seem to see a peak in road casualties in December.

**I** is for Ice which can catch out the nimblest of cats as they run along the tops of fences and walls, for example, resulting in injuries. Also, cars misjudging icy conditions or being

unable to stop as quickly as usual may pose an increased hazard. The salt/grit applied to roads and pavements will certainly irritate paws in particular.

**J** is for Just the two of you. Try to spend some calm time with your cat over such a hectic period. You will both appreciate it.

**K** is for Kennels/catteries which often are very busy at this time so you will have to plan ahead if you want to board your cat over the festive period. Some catteries have regular Christmas bookings from year to year.

**L** is for Lights and in particular the flashing strands of lights which may encourage a cat to climb up to investigate at closer range, which is not a good thing if they are hung on a Christmas tree, for example. Additionally, and stating the obvious, live electricity from the mains supply is involved.

**M** is for Medicines. Do check that you have sufficient supplies of any regular medications to hand to see you well into January, because running out of an anti-epileptic drug, for example, on Christmas Day is not advisable. By the same token, do make sure you have plenty of prescription diets and also regular cat foods.

**N** is for Needles, in this case the type of needle shed by the real fir tree which suddenly appears in the sitting room. They can catch in the fur of long-haired cats and at worse work their way into the paws between the digits (toes) and cause all sorts of problems. Simply licking in an attempt to remove pine needles from the fur could result in a nasty skin infection.









# MAKE FRIENDS WITH a Snowshoe

Devote some time to this playful, energetic and affectionate breed and be rewarded with a wonderful companion

If you are lucky enough to live with a Snowshoe then you will know who is boss and that the Snowshoe is, in fact, the owner of the human. Give one of these affectionate cats your un-divided attention and you will earn their lifelong friendship.

## The origins

The playful Snowshoe originates from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In the 1960s, established breeder Dorothy Hinds-Daugherty found three kittens, each with four white feet, in a litter of Siamese. The combination of these feet with the pointed colours was very appealing and she decided to develop the breed. Kittens were bred to a domestic American Shorthair cat with tuxedo markings and eventually the desirable white facial 'V' was developed.

However, following a lot of initial interest in the new breed, the white pat-

tern was fairly inconsistent and many breeders were discouraged. Slowly, interest in these beautiful cats was rekindled and the breeding programme in the UK was started in 1986. Much is being done to produce new bloodlines, eliminating health issues and faults caused by too much inbreeding and there are now more colours than before.

## The personality

The Snowshoe has a personality formed by the mix of both ancestors. An aloofness from the Siamese is tempered with the 'normality' of a domestic cat, although no two Snowshoes are ever alike. Some can be a little bossy, others can be quite shy. While they are usually comfortable with other cats, some prefer to have your complete attention all to themselves. Most are quite happy to be around children.

With a soft, melodic voice that will talk back to you, this breed often knows what you are going to do before you do it





and while they like to be near you, they prefer to be the leader rather than follow like a dog. In fact they will adopt you rather than the other way around and to be 'owned' by a Snowshoe is something you can only appreciate by experience.

They are an inquisitive and active cat and will entertain you for hours, quickly becoming an affectionate companion. They love to play and will soon learn how to fetch toys and even turn on light switches. Climbing frames (the taller the better), tunnels and fishing rod toys are all great favourites for this energetic breed.

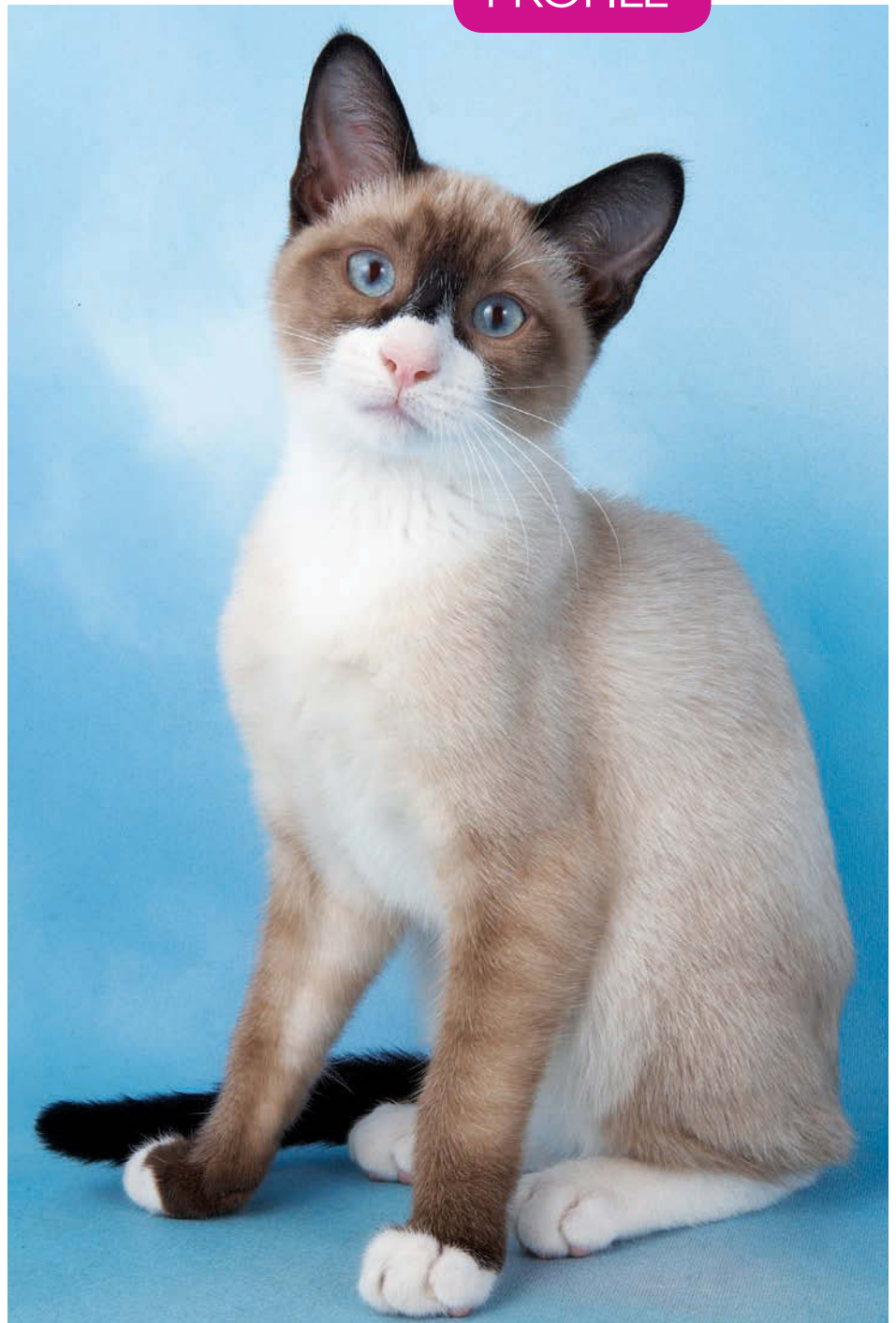
## Features

A shorthair cat, the Snowshoe should not be confused with a Birman or Ragdoll. The coat is smooth to the touch with only a single layer. This makes it easy to groom and most Snowshoes will groom themselves unless they are stressed or unwell. A light brushing with a soft bristle brush is usually all that is required and is an opportunity to check for any problems.

The combination of blue eyes, pointed pattern and white trim makes the Snowshoe unique amongst shorthaired cats.

Kittens are completely white when born and it takes a few weeks before you can be sure of the point colouring. As the kittens age, legs, tail, head and ears begin to darken and the body is a light cream colour which also darkens with age. The most common colours are seal point and blue point. Specialised breeding is required to produce the lighter colours such as lilac or chocolate and they do not have such a good contrast between the point colour and the feet. Eye colours range from sparkling blue through to a pale blue/grey and paw pads can be either pink, point colour or a combination of both.

The Snowshoe cat is firm and muscular without being too large and is deceptively powerful and agile. The body is not excessively long and is basically rectangular with medium - long legs. The head should be a medium wedge shape with a slightly rounded outline. The preferred Snowshoe pattern is a symmetrical inverted V of white on the face, from the bridge of the nose extending to cover the whisker pads and chin but not extending beyond the outer eye; the chin and nose leather are white. The ears are medium large and continue the triangular appearance of the head. Paws are also medium



in size and oval, tapering to the toes.

The tail is fairly thick at the base, tapering towards the tip and must be in proportion to the length of the body, reaching to the shoulders.

Male cats weigh approximately 9 - 12 pounds but can feel heavier when lifted. A female is much smaller, approximately 7 - 10 pounds, though some can match the weight of a male but without the heftiness.

## Showing a Snowshoe

**Mitted** - Pointed (Siamese/Colourpoint) pattern overlaid with white mittens on the front paws and boots on the hind legs. Chin, throat, chest and belly may

also be white.

**Preferred pattern** - As above but with a perfect white 'V' on the face which runs from the muzzle and nose up between the eyes.

**Bi-Colour** - Bi-colours have varying degrees of white patterning; as much as a third of the coat may be white. The white on the front feet may extend to include the whole leg while on the hind legs, the white may extend above the hocks and right up to the hips. The face should still have the inverted white 'V'.

**Harlequin** - As much as two thirds of





the coat may be white for a Harlequin snowshoe but for GCCF competitions, the ears must not be white.

## The official breed standard Self-coloured points

Those with Self (single colour) points are possible in eight different varieties:

- Seal Beige/cream body with dark seal brown points
- Blue Bluish-white body with blue-grey points
- Chocolate Ivory body with milk chocolate points
- Lilac Magnolia body with frosty pinkish-grey points
- Red Creamy-white body with warm orange points
- Cream Creamy-white body with pastel-cream points
- Cinnamon Ivory body with warm cinnamon-brown points

- Fawn Magnolia-white body with buff-beige points
- Seal points and Blue points are among the most popular and are regularly seen at shows. Dilute colours, such as lilac, will take longer to develop a maturity.

## Tabby points

The addition of tabby markings makes tabby versions of the self-coloured points:

- Seal Tabby, Blue Tabby, Chocolate Tabby, Lilac Tabby, Red Tabby, Cream Tabby, Cinnamon and Fawn Tabby.
- Seal Tabby Points and Blue Tabby Points are very popular.

## Tortie points

Red has been introduced to four basic

point colours to give six possible colour varieties where the self colours have been combined with red or cream.

- Seal-tortie Beige/fawn body with seal/red patched and/or mingled points.
- Blue tortie Glacial bluish-white body with blue-grey and pastel cream patched or mingled points.
- Chocolate tortie Ivory body with chocolate and red patched and/or mingled points.
- Lilac points Magnolia body with lilac and pale-cream patched and/or mingled points.
- Cinnamon tortie Ivory body with warm cinnamon brown and red patched or mingled points.
- Fawn tortie Magnolia body with beige-buff and pale-cream patched and/or mingled points. Tortie points are almost always females since they are genetically sex-linked colours and can produce a wide range of all colours.

## Tortie tabby points

Tortoiseshell and tabby combinations make a further six Tortie Tabby varieties; although rare: Seal Tortie Tabby, Blue Tortie Tabby, Chocolate Tortie Tabby, Lilac Tortie Tabby, Red Tortie Tabby, Cream Tortie Tabby, Cinnamon Tortie Tabby and Fawn Tortie Tabby. 🐾

## SCALE OF POINTS

<b>Head</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Ears</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Eyes</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Body, neck &amp; bone structure</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Legs &amp; paws</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Tail</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Coat length, texture &amp; condition</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Colour and markings</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Temperament</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>







# WHY CHOOSE A Snowshoe?

**T**here were many factors that drew me to the snowshoe as a breed.

Bella (Destrier Snowbelle) is a rare breed of cat, with beautiful and unusual markings. Bella's grandfather is Destrier Dodge Viper, the first apricot snowshoe in the world.

Bella is also related to Destrier Troublemaker, a seal classic show pattern snowshoe whom I had pleasure of showing at South West of England cat society's 50th anniversary show, where he won Best in Show in the Pedigree Pet section.

Bella has a very special social personality with a very much 'need to be touched' attitude.

She is a very sweet interactive girl and loves to talk to us and also makes eye contact with us. Bella is the perfect companion for people who want a cat that they can cuddle and play with. She is very good with children and other animals, embraces change and is a particularly intelligent girl, making Bella a perfect, sound all round cat and perfect family companion.

Talking to Kelly Cruse of Destrier cats and seeing her passion for the Snowshoe drew me to the breed as a breeder. I'm looking forward to working alongside Destrier cats and producing more exciting patterns and colours and of course quality, happy, healthy, well bred and socialised baby Snowshoes for people worldwide to enjoy.

I came to learn of the Snowshoe as a breed after I purchased two Havana girls from Destrier cats. I got to know Kelly Cruse and her cats well and soon began going in to help and enjoy looking after the cats.

From there I gained a wealth of knowledge from Kelly and her passion for achieving the best for the breed and developing new bloodlines for the Snowshoe drew me to want to learn

Owner and breeder Lisa-Marie Meadows, of Paridec Snowshoe Siamese, has been bowled over by her new Snowshoe Queen

more and become involved with breeding the Snowshoe and progressing the breed myself.

Eventually there came my chance to own a Snowshoe queen and I was entrusted with Destrier Snowbelle, the first fourth generation seal tortie Snowshoe.

Destrier Snowbelle came to me at 14 weeks old, very social and interactive.

In order to go on to show Destrier Snowbelle at a later date, I had to continue to feed her on the high quality Royal Canin diet she was used to in order to keep her coat in tip top condition.

I also needed to continue with socialisation and with her show training by regularly putting her into show pose so she would learn the correct pose and be confident at cat shows.

Destrier Snowbelle attended her first cat show as a kitten in 27th September 2014, at the South Western Counties cat show at Well Springs Leisure Centre.



Destrier Snowbelle was liked by judges and did very well, gaining Best of Breed and first in her breed class, to name a few. This was particularly exciting and encouraging, as Destrier Snowbelle is the first and only known fourth generation seal tortie snowshoe worldwide to be shown in full competition, ever.

I have also recently received a letter inviting me to the South Western Counties cat club trophy presentation to collect a trophy on behalf of Destrier Snowbelle for gaining a First and Best of Breed.

The wonderfully sweet nature of this Snowshoe kitten means she is the perfect companion and she seems to be enjoying life on the show circuit too. 🐾







# Show dates

FORTHCOMING SHOW DATES AROUND THE UK

## GCCF

### DECEMBER

#### DECEMBER 6

##### **Trans Pennine Oriental & Siamese Cat Club**

Stockport Masonic Guildhall,  
169 Wellington Road South,  
Stockport, Cheshire SK1 3UA

##### **The Russian and Abyssinian Cat Club of Scotland**

The Victoria Halls Complex,  
Downies Wynd,  
Annan DG12 6EE

#### DECEMBER 13

##### **The National Cat Club**

Bracknell Leisure Centre,  
Bagshot Road, Bracknell,  
Berkshire RG12 9SE

##### **Sphynx Cat Association**

Bracknell Leisure Centre,  
Bagshot Road, Bracknell,  
Berkshire RG12 9SE

##### **Colourpoint Society of Great Britain**

Bracknell Leisure Centre,  
Bagshot Road, Bracknell,  
Berkshire RG12 9SE

#### DECEMBER 20

##### **Maidstone & Medway Cat Club**

Bracknell Leisure Centre,  
Bagshot Road, Bracknell,  
Berkshire RG12 9SE

### 2015 JANUARY

#### JANUARY 3

##### **Capital Long Hair Cat Association**

Wodson Park Leisure Centre,  
Rogers Lane, Ettington,  
Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 7SX

##### **Eastern Long Hair & Semi Long Hair Cat Club**

Wodson Park Leisure Centre,  
Rogers Lane, Ettington,  
Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 7SX

#### JANUARY 10

##### **Colourpoint Cat Club**

Wodson Park Leisure Centre,  
Rogers Lane, Ettington,  
Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 7SX

##### **Exotic Cat Society**

Tydd St Giles Community Centre,  
Broad Dove East, Tydd St Giles,  
Wisbech, Cambs. PE13 5LN

#### JANUARY 11

##### **Cameo, Pewter & Smoke Society**

The Memorial Village Hall,  
Gnosall, Staffs ST20 0ET

#### JANUARY 24

##### **West of Scotland Cat Club**

Scotstoun, Sports Campus,  
72 Danes Drive,  
Glasgow G14 9HD

#### JANUARY 31

##### **Celtic Long Hair & Semi Long Hair Cat Society**

Chepstow Leisure Centre,  
Crossway Green,  
Chepstow NP16 5LX

## TICA

#### DECEMBER 12/13/14

##### **SpoTICAt**

Ryton on Dunsmore,  
Coventry

#### JANUARY 4

##### **TickedTICA**

Swanley

#### FEBRUARY 14/15

##### **NaturallyTICA**

Doncaster





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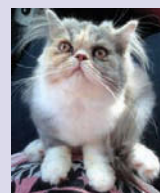


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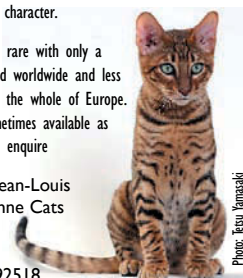


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Breed profile -  
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# Show news

WITH CAROLE KEMP

## Fun for all at the Birman Show 2014

**T**his great show puts on things for exhibitors that a lot of other shows do not. Not only do they run an early bird competition - entries that are received by a certain date are put into a draw and the winner gets their entry money for the show back - but there is also a lucky catalogue; the winner gets the next year's show fees for free! There are plenty of other things too that I will tell you about further on in the report.

The show venue is ideal for me as I only live six miles away from it. There is no getting up at silly o'clock to get there and

at the end of the day, there is only a short drive back home.

There were plenty of stalls at the show persuading us to part with our well earned money so that our furry friends could have a treat and there were also the now well known cakes made by Angela Walker for us to buy.

During the course of the day there were lucky pen draws that won the owner of the pen £25 in cash. Not only that but there was a Sweepstake class in the catalogue for us all to enter; the winner got £10 and second place got £5. There was also a photo competition with



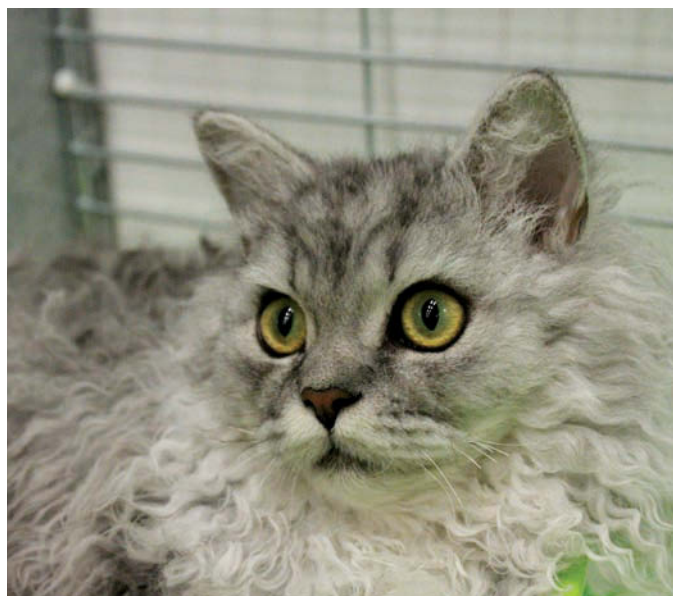
**Top right:** BIS Male Neuter and Overall BIS Neuter Grand Premier Maysula Tye owned by Mrs and Mrs J and M Faber.

**Right:** BIS Pedigree Pet Theo owned by Mrs M Brown and Mrs D Coupland.

**Far right:** Overall BIS Non Pedigree Olympian Gold Imperial Grand Mastercat Biscuit owned by Mrs L Hutchinson.

**Below:** Gr Pr Snowshadow Blue Lagoon owned by Nicky Butler Imperial winner.

**Below right:** Selkirk Rex kitten Boucles Mr Meli-Melo on exhibition owned by Mrs D Sanderson.







**Above:** BIS Assessment Ragamuffin Cheham Trulyirresistable owned by Mrs C Powell and Mr A Wells.

**Above right:** Ragamuffin King Oberon owned by Mrs J Parker Merit and BOB winner.

**Below:** Overall BIS 2014 Sarmoyah Yasmin owned and bred by Mrs J Pool.

**Bottom:** Birman Show Manager Elaine Culf with Overall BIS Birman 2014 Sarmoyah Yasmin.

some lovely little goody bags as prizes, filled with all sorts of things.

There were twelve cats on exhibition, including Maine Coons, Siberians and Ragamuffins.

Best in show Non Pedigree was a lovely ginger and white boy, Olympian Gold Imperial Grand Mastercat Biscuit, owned by Mrs Linda Hutchinson. Best in show Pedigree Pet was Theo, a five month old kitten, belonging to Donna Coupeland and Mary Brown. Congratulations to the very proud owners.

Best in show for the Birmans was judged by Mrs Val Kilby, Mrs Alison Lyall and Mr John Hansson. They had some simply stunning cats to choose from but in the end there was an unanimous decision as to the who the winner was going to be. Best In Show Birman for 2014 went to Sarmoyah Yasmin, a gorgeous six month old tortie tabby point kitten, owned and bred by Mrs J Pool.

Best in show Assessment Breed went to a lovely Ragamuffin, Cheham Trulyirresistable, owned and bred by Mrs C Powell and Mr A Wells.

This was definitely another great show that will be held again on Saturday 7th November 2015, at the same

venue in Lutterworth. Be there if you have a passion for Birmans!

This Birman show saw my Nebelung Brumeux Man Ov Steel go to his first adult show. This club hold classes for assessment breeds, so I was able to take him. He won his first adult merit and the best of breed and was also considered for Best In Show Assessment breed. Thanks go to judge Mrs Alison Lyall for giving him that very important adult merit. 🐾



**Above:** Nebelung Brumeux Man Ov Steel owned by Mrs Kemp Merit and BOB winner.

## BIRMAN SHOW - BEST IN SHOW

**OVERALL BEST IN SHOW** - Sarmoyah Yasmin (SBI f 21)

**BEST MALE** - Bullamoor Beau Brummell (SBI d)

**BEST FEMALE & BEST ADULT** - Gr Ch Sarmoyah Princess Aurora (SBI f)

**BEST MALE KITTEN** - Sarmoyah Red Crusader

**BEST FEMALE KITTEN & BEST KITTEN** - Sarmoyah Yasmin (SBI f 21)

**BEST MALE NEUTER & BEST NEUTER** - Gr Pr Maysula Tyee (SBI b 21)

**BEST FEMALE NEUTER** - Pr Doubledelight Sasha (SBI a)

**BEST NON-PEDIGREE** - OB IGMC Biscuit

**BEST PEDIGREE PET** - Theo

**Best Assessment Breed** - Cheham Trulyirresistable (RGM n 03) Ragamuffin

## NORSK SKOGKATT SOCIETY - BEST IN SHOW

Date: Saturday 4th October 2014

**OVERALL BEST IN SHOW:** Norskmagi Bettiboo

**BEST NORWEGIAN ADULT MALE:** Ch Seecom's Issac

**BEST NORWEGIAN ADULT FEMALE & OVERALL BIS ADULT:** Gr Ch Fairybelles Daisy Chain

**BEST NORWEGIAN KITTEN MALE:** Vonntitch Diamond-Geezer

**BEST NORWEGIAN KITTEN FEMALE & OVERALL BIS KITTEN & OVERALL BIS:** Norskmagi Bettiboo

**BEST NORWEGIAN NEUTER MALE & OVERALL BIS NEUTER:** Pr Zelandonii Horace Wimp

**BEST NORWEGIAN NEUTER FEMALE:** Imp Gr Ch Kattjewels Tinkerbell

**BEST IN SHOW ASSESSMENT ADULT & OVERALL BIS**

**ASSESSMENT:** Cheham Picture Perfect

**BEST IN SHOW ASSESSMENT KITTEN:** Cheham Rubytuesday

**BEST IN SHOW ASSESSMENT NEUTER:** Adzwolo Brumeux Gregor

**BEST IN SHOW NON PEDIGREE PET:** Kaana

**BEST IN SHOW PEDIGREE PET & OVERALL BIS HOUSEHOLD PET:** Wilf



## MAINE COON BREED SOCIETY SHOW - BEST IN SHOW

Date: Saturday 4th October 2014

**BEST EXHIBIT:** SUP UK OG IGP Dairymaine Sarnia Cherie (MCO f 21)

**BEST MALE ADULT:** Ch Floscoons Bear (MCO n 22)

**BEST FEMALE ADULT AND OVERALL ADULT:** Ch Coonflakes Domino (MCO n 03)

**BEST MALE KITTEN:** No Doubt Mellvandia (64 31fs)

**BEST FEMALE KITTEN AND OVERALL KITTEN:** Mabalakat Marthas Vineyard (MCO fs 03 22)

**BEST MALE NEUTER:** Ch & IGP Isadoryou Tom Daley (MCO d 03 22)

**BEST FEMALE NEUTER AND OVERALL NEUTER:** SUP UK OG IGP Dairymaine Sarnia Cherie (MCO f 21)

**BEST ASSESSMENT:** Adzwolo Bruemux (NEB 69)

**Best Household Pet:** Jon-Snow



*Left: Best in Show Household Pet Tiny Spice.*

## RUSSIAN BLUE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION SHOW - BEST IN SHOW

Date: Saturday 4th October 2014

### OVERALL BEST IN SHOW

Judge - Mrs Anderson-Drew

**IGR CH KORESHKA ROKSANA RUSINA**

Best in Show Panel - Mrs Ashmore, Mrs Codd, Mrs Grant



### RUSSIAN BLUE ADULT

**BEST MALE:** Ch Serennol Yasha

**BEST FEMALE & BEST ADULT:** IGRCh Koreshka Roksana Rusina

### RUSSIAN BLUE KITTEN

**BEST MALE:** Melketer Wishful Thinking

**BEST FEMALE & BEST KITTEN:** Adurtsh Miss Moonshine

### RUSSIAN BLUE NEUTER

**BEST MALE & BEST NEUTER:** Pr Siykat Lancelot

**BEST FEMALE:** Ch & GrPr Shoelina Milyukova

### BEST RUSSIAN WHITE OR BLACK:

Ch Sithee Madam Belladonna (RUS n)

### BEST OF ASSESSMENT BREEDS:

Brumeux Man Ov Steel (NEB)

### BEST HOUSEHOLD PET:

Tiny Spice

## YORKSHIRE COUNTY CAT CLUB SHOW - BEST IN SHOW

Date: Saturday 25th October 2014

### OVERALL BEST IN SHOW

**CULLYKHAN HERCULES (PER n 03 21)**

### BEST OF VARIETY

#### PERSIAN

**ADULT** CULLYKHAN HERCULES (PER n 03 21)

**KITTEN** SIMCRIS TUPPENCE HA'PENNY (EXO n 03 21)

**NEUTER** PR ZENDIQUE ZEBEDEE (EXO d 03 21 v)

#### SEMI LONGHAIR

**ADULT** GR CH SUPATOFT TIKI MASALA (SOL n)

**KITTEN** SARMOYAH YASMIN (SBI f 21)

**NEUTER** OB IMP GR PR ISADORYOU PINK'PANTHER (MCO ds 03 11)

#### BRITISH

**ADULT** IMP GR CH DELPHINIUM SWEET-WILLIAM (BRI n 24)

**KITTEN** MEWSOS CHESNEY HAWKES (BRI a)

**NEUTER** PR PAMPURRED BOOZY BLU (BRI a)

#### FOREIGN

**ADULT** ICEGEMS AMETHYST (SNO a 05)

**KITTEN** FLUFFYPANTS BLUE BUTTONS (ALH as 11)

**NEUTER** GR CH & GR PR COPERNICUS CHERRY BLOSSOM (TOS f 32)

#### BURMESE

**ADULT** OS IMP GR CH ROSSIKHAN SWEETBABY JAMES (BUR n)

**KITTEN** ROSSIKHAN SUGAR ANDSPICE (BUR c)

**NEUTER** CH & UK IMP GR PR GATTINI LA LUNA (BUR a)

#### ORIENTAL

**ADULT** GR CH VELVETENA FAWNYKACHON (OSH p)

**KITTEN** HEMLOCK SPOTTY MULDOON (OSH n 24)

#### SIAMESE

**ADULT** CH MAFDET MALALA (SIA m)

**KITTEN** MAFDET MAYA (SIA m)

**NEUTER** PR BELROO MONTALBANO (SIA p)

#### HOUSEHOLD PETS

**NON PEDIGREE PET** GR MC MARMADUKE  
**PEDIGREE PET** USHER



*Above: Nebelung kitten Brumeux Dieu Bleu.*

*Above right: Russian Blue Gr Pr Curtilla Grey Mirage - Russian Blue.*

*Above: Russian Blue Kitten Inneska Mustic Beau-Saf.*





## CHESHIRE AREA CAT CLUB SHOW BEST IN SHOW AND BEST OF VARIETY

Report by Heather Bradley.  
Date: Saturday 8th November 2014

### OVERALL BEST IN SHOW:

UK & IGR PR LINGCOMB ENDYMION (SBI n (13c1)) MN

### PERSIAN

**ADULT** TAMOSAH KEYSHA (10) F

**KITTEN** ALGERNON WALKTHELINE (PER a 03 21 (12a2t)) M

**NEUTER** GR PR KAVIKAT MACTAVISH (PER a 03 (12a2)) MN

### SEMI LONGHAIR

**ADULT** COONARIA CHICAGO (MCO n 03 22 (64 41w)) M

**KITTEN** JINGLEBELLS RED ADAIR (MCO ds 22 (64 41ds)) M

**NEUTER** UK & IGR PR LINGCOMB ENDYMION (SBI n (13c1)) MN

### BRITISH

**ADULT** DELPHINIUM SIMPLY RED (BRI d 24 (30d)) M

**KITTEN** XZIBIT TEACAKE (BRI f (21)) F

**NEUTER** PR SHINYFAIRY DUMBLEDORE (BRI c 03 (31c)) MN

### FOREIGN

**ADULT** CH GLENDAVAN CARAMELLO KOALA (ABY b (23b)) F

**KITTEN** LINCZOZO CLEMENTINE (ABY o (23a)) F

**NEUTER** CH & IGR PR JAYSHELM TAMARISK (SIN (77)) FN

### BURMESE

**ADULT** IGR CH BLOOMERS BELCHAMPE BROOKE (BUR h (27h)) F

**KITTEN** FLOREAT SERENISSIMA (BUR c (27c)) F

**NEUTER** IGR CH MAHARANI VERITY BROWNE (BUR n (27)) FN

### ORIENTAL

**ADULT** IGR CH ALDERSTAR ANDRO (OSH em (37fn)) M

**KITTEN** HEMLOCK ONLY THE BRAVE (OSH b 24 (38b)) M

**NEUTER** GR CH & GR PR PIPASTRO JAY SILVERHEELS (OLH ds 11 (62 43ds))

### SIAMESE

**ADULT** UK & OBIGC KARAMUSHI TUTI FRUITY (SIA f (32b1)) F

**KITTEN** JOHPAS THE RED BARON (SIA d (32a)) M

**NEUTER** CH & GR PR COSITA BRUNO TONIOLI (SIA a 21 (32 2)) MN

### HOUSEHOLD PETS

**NON PEDIGREE PET** DYLAN (SH Ginger Tabby) MN

**PEDIGREE PET** OBIGMC EDWIN (SH Blue Silver Tabby) MN

## EGYPTIAN MAU SHOW - BEST IN SHOW

Date: Saturday 4th October 2014

**BEST EGYPTIAN MAU KITTEN AND OVERALL BIS EGYPTIAN MAU:** STARRSAILOR SPOOKY MULDER (MAU NS) (M)

**BEST EGYPTIAN MAU ADULT:** OB IMP GR CH NATANGO'S GHANIYAH OF GENIEMAU (MAU n 24) (F)

**BEST EGYPTIAN MAU NEUTER:** PR STARSHADOW GOLDEN PROMISE (MAU n 24) (M)

**OVERALL BIS HOUSEHOLD PET:** UK & OSIGMC ALYS (Tabby & White LH) (F)

● Is your cat a winner? Do you want to let everyone know? Contact Maria on 01903 884988 or email maria@ashdown.co.uk for details of our special Congratulations Boxes.



## Olympian Gold Imperial Grand Master Cat Barney Rubbles

Showing Barney all started when our show cat was in the maternal way, having got the show bug again we couldn't see us not attending any shows and wondered what we could do.

So we sat there looking at Barney and wondered, as he was so laid back and loved attention, would he be an ideal HPP candidate? So we entered our first show. Barney was (and still is) very vocal in the car while travelling to any show, near or far, but had we made the right choice? No matter what we tried, he would always make sure you knew he was in the car, ear plugs always recommended. But once we arrived at the show, he stood proud at vetting in, settled into his pen

and was soon showing off and rolling around.

On Saturday 25th February 2012, Barney won his first Master Cat certificate at the Coventry and Leicester show and exactly 2 years and 8 months later (to the day) on Saturday 25th October Barney won his last Olympian Gold Certificate, Best in Colour, won all side classes and topped it off with Best in Show Pedigree Pet. We have had a momentous journey and have made some fantastic new friends (human and feline) along the way.

Barneys future may not be attending shows in competition but on exhibition, where he'll love nothing more than a fuss and cuddle. 🐾

## CUMBERLAND CAT CLUB SHOW - BEST IN SHOW

Date: Saturday Saturday 11th October 2014

### OVERALL BEST IN SHOW

PR ISADORYOU PHOENIX (64 41dsw – MCO ds 03 22) MN  
Owned by The Misses S&R Holden, Bred by Miss T Murray

**BEST PERSIAN:** Gr Ch Heathrose in the Negative (6 - PER ns) M

**BEST SEMI LONGHAIR:** Pr Isadoryou Phoenix (64 41dsw - MCO ds 03 22) MN

**BEST BRITISH:** IGr Ch Fergan Goodnight Kiss (21 - BRI f) F

**BEST FOREIGN:** Cagaran Kittling-O-Hinnie (68 41hq - ASL h 22 31) F

**BEST BURMESE:** Aureus Irresistible (27j - BUR j) F

**BEST ORIENTAL:** Adthelstan Pandamonium (48 42 - OSH ns 03) M

**BEST SIAMESE:** Drestothril Diadem (24 - SIA n) F

**BEST PEDIGREE PET:** OS IGMCC Barney Rubbles



# Feline Immunodeficiency Virus: **THE FACTS**

Emily Fowler finds that the mere mention of Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) can strike fear into the hearts of cat owners but the reality is that many FIV+ cats live long and happy lives with the help of their owners

If your cat tests positive for FIV, it may seem like the end of the world. Similarly, people looking to adopt a cat from a rescue centre or sanctuary will often overlook FIV+ cats in favour of other, 'healthier' cats, meaning that many FIV+ cats sadly face never finding their forever homes, instead spending the rest of their lives in shelters. The reality is that with the right love, care and attention, an FIV+ cat can live a long and happy life.

Part of the problem is the general lack of knowledge about FIV and what it means, and the misunderstanding that a cat with FIV has 'cat AIDS'. When I told my brother I'd adopted an FIV+ cat and explained what it meant, there was a long silence before he tentatively asked whether it was safe for humans to be around her. Now, my brother is a very intelligent man (and I'm not just saying that because he's my brother!), so it just goes to show how little is known about FIV to the average person in the UK.

## **What is FIV?**

FIV is a lentivirus, and as the most commonly known lentivirus in humans is Human Immuno Deficiency Virus (HIV), it's no wonder that many cat owners panic when they discover that their cat is FIV+. Unlike HIV, the FIV strain that's carried in cats

who live as family pets is very benign, so the symptoms and consequences of the virus are much milder than in cases of HIV in humans.

FIV reduces the white blood cell count of infected cats, meaning that their bodies are less able to fight off infections, although the virus is generally very slow-acting so infected cats can live full and happy lives with minimal health issues caused by FIV.

The virus is carried in the blood and saliva of infected cats, and is most commonly transmitted through cat bites, when the saliva of an infected cat enters the bloodstream of the cat being bitten. It's less commonly transmitted through an uninfected cat biting an infected cat, and it's difficult to be passed from cat to cat just by sharing food bowls or toys, as the virus is very fragile when it's outside the cat's body.

## **How will FIV affect your cat?**

FIV means that infected cats have a compromised immune system, so owners of FIV+ cats should take extra care in keeping their cats protected and healthy.

FIV+ cats are less likely to be able to

fight off any infections they pick up, so it's important to keep a cat with FIV as safe from infection as possible.

FIV is more of a risk in stray cats because their lifestyle usually means having to fight for food and territory, and the lack of care and attention they get means that they're more likely to develop secondary infections which without veterinary treatment can have severe consequences. On the other hand, a domestic pet cat is more likely to stay free of infection, and with regular vet care any secondary issues can be treated immediately.

I talked to vet Helen Perryman (BVetMed MRCVS) of Avonvale Veterinary Centres' Warwick surgery about how owners react to a positive diagnosis in their cat.

"The reaction usually depends on whether the cat is otherwise healthy or is unwell at the time of diagnosis. If the cat is already showing signs of illness, the prognosis is much poorer so the diagnosis will clearly be more unwelcome."

Cats in the final, chronic stages of FIV (FAIDS) are likely to suffer from a number of general health issues including mouth and gum disease, recurrent infections and diarrhoea, but the majority of FIV+ cats don't reach this stage for many years.

When it comes to the average life expectancy of an FIV+ cat, Helen says that it's difficult to determine.

"It really depends on when the cat is diagnosed and the state of health they're in at the time. If a cat tests positive when they're well and can be well-managed, the life-expectancy will be higher than if they're already ill at diagnosis."

## **Keeping FIV+ cats happy and healthy**

Caring for an FIV+ cat is not that different to looking after uninfected cats; they all need plenty of love, care and attention.

A good diet of high-quality food with all the essential nutrients a cat needs is especially important for FIV+ cats, and

*It just goes to show how little is known about FIV to the average person in the UK.*







vitamins that boost the immune system are a good addition to their diet.

Regular check-ups are needed, so your vet can keep an eye on any issues that might occur, and if your FIV+ cat shows any sign of illness you should go to the vet straight away to make sure that any problems are treated immediately.

Keeping an FIV+ cat in a stress-free, indoor environment is important not only for the infected cat, but also to prevent the spread of FIV in the local area. If you think you might struggle to keep your cat indoors, follow Helen's advice on providing enough environmental enrichment in your home:

"I would advise plenty of stimulation with climbing frames etc., plenty of human interaction and ideally an enclosed outside run."

#### Vet Helen's top tips for keeping FIV+ cats happy and healthy

- Environmental enrichment inside the home
- Regular vaccinations with inactivated (not live) vaccines
- Regular veterinary check-ups to pick up early signs of illness
- Good dental hygiene to reduce bacterial load in the mouth
- A good quality balanced diet.

#### Adopting an FIV+ cat

Although the majority of pet cats aren't tested for FIV as a matter of

course, so it's often only when they start to show signs of illness that they're diagnosed, cats who are going to be put up for adoption are tested for a number of feline illnesses as part of the process. If you see an FIV+ cat available for re-homing from a shelter or cat rescue, it will be generally healthy and could go on for a long time before it starts to develop any signs of illness. Sadly, for those cats that come into shelters already ill, typically strays who haven't had the care and attention a loving home can give, the recommended advice is usually euthanasia.

So many FIV+ cats are passed over in the search to adopt the perfect family pet because potential adopters don't realise that an infected cat has a reasonable chance of living a long life. According to statistics from the SAVSNET (The Small Animal Veterinary Surveillance Network) report covering 4th January 2012 to 31st May 2014, the percentage of FIV+ cats in UK shelters during that period was 1-7%<sup>1</sup>. While this might seem like a small percentage, with Cats Protection alone claiming to rehome and reunite 46000<sup>2</sup> cats every year, just think about the amount of FIV+ cats in all of the shelters across the UK who may never find a forever home.

While there's no cure for FIV, with proper care and veterinary treatment if the cat gets ill, the future for FIV+ cats can be good. 🐾

<sup>1</sup>[www.savsnet.co.uk/lab-report/#](http://www.savsnet.co.uk/lab-report/#)

<sup>2</sup> [www.cats.org.uk/media/facts-figures](http://www.cats.org.uk/media/facts-figures)

## Knitting Kittens at Battersea

The world's first interspecies knitting club has been launched at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home where animal lovers can spend time with feline friends and create don-knit-tions for the charity's homeless moggies.

The famous rescue centre invited animal and craft lovers to the first Knitting Kittens Club in the charity's London cattery on Wednesday 15 October to make blankets, toys and knitted mice in the company of Battersea cats. The creative donations will be used to keep the 250 felines looking for new homes across its three centres warm and entertained over the winter months.

SuiLi Weight, Battersea's Cattery Team Leader, said: "Battersea's cattery is so excited to launch the world's first interspecies knitting club, where people can knit donations for our cats and see the feline residents that will benefit from their skill and generosity. Our cats greatly appreciate their donated blankets and knitted mice to play with in their pens while they wait for a new home.

"We hope knitters of all abilities, including complete beginners who will be shown the ropes, will join this fun and relaxed group for people who enjoy the company of cats. We have a lot of supporters who like to knit and thought this would be a great way to bring everyone together under one roof to share a mutual love of knitting and kitties."

The Knitting Kittens club will run monthly, from 5pm to 8pm and knitters are asked to bring their own needles and wool but will be provided with patterns and lessons for beginners. A donation of £2 entry has been suggested. For more information about the Knitting Kittens club and the date of the next event, visit [www.battersea.org.uk/knittingkittens](http://www.battersea.org.uk/knittingkittens)

Since it was founded, Battersea has rescued, reunited and rehomed over 3.1 million dogs and cats.

In 2013 the Home cared for 5,421 dogs and 3,120 cats.

In 2013 44% of dogs and 47% of cats arrived as strays.

For further information on Battersea Dogs & Cats Home please visit [www.battersea.org.uk](http://www.battersea.org.uk).

Follow Battersea on Twitter @BDCH or facebook.com/Battersea 🐾

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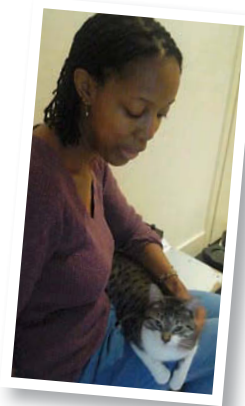
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# Carmen Buttercup and me



Cats will happily adopt a human - just as long as the human realises it is on feline terms

*By Dawn Wedajo*

**S**unday morning, the alarm clock on my radio erupted to the sound of loud, lively, rhythmic beats. It was 7. a.m. I reached out to turn down the volume, feeling entitled to a bit of a lie in; rest at that moment was more appealing than a boogie in my bedroom wearing floral pjs. The dance floor could wait for the time being.

I glanced through the curtains, the sky resembled a gloomy shade of greyish blue. The light in my room was still fairly dim. Before I could put my head back under the covers, in walked the delightful Carmen Buttercup. My one year old tabby. A welcome sight to my sleepy eyes. As she sashayed across the room, I wondered whether she approved of the music playing in the back ground.

The tiny bell on her pink collar rang gently and announced her sudden arrival. Her bright green eyes sparkled as she gazed up at me as if to say "good morning". Somehow, getting out of bed even though the rest of the world appeared to be still asleep, didn't seem quite so hard now that my new furry best friend was on the scene. She purred loudly and rushed toward me, jumping up on the window sill beside my bed. Still, there was a measure of hesitation; she twitched her nose and leaned towards my face then allowed me to give her a brief cuddle. Her tail moved slowly up and down, up and down.

I disappeared into the bathroom to grab a quick shower. I could hear Carmen impolitely scratching behind the wall, waiting for me to reappear, her white paw peeping through the space at the base of the door. When I greeted her again with a soft tickle her

first instinct was to use her claws before running towards the kitchen cupboard where her food was kept.

I thought about her temperament as she made light work of her breakfast, eating with gusto and licking her lips as she finished the last morsel. I hadn't been alarmed by her sudden attack. I just wanted to understand. In many ways this feline was a bundle of contradictions. She was gentle but remained guarded; she was playful but always cautious; she appeared to enjoy company but only on her terms. She was bold but often timid, giving but defensive; she was a fully fledged family member...but so often aloof, yet...she had become my shadow. From the first day that this curious 'feral' kitty came into my life (six months ago now) I had been working hard to gain her trust.

I slid open the long curtains in the living room and smiled as my moggy cheekily played hide and seek with them, weaving in and out between the long floaty material as if she were in a tunnel. Her enthusiasm, though infectious, was sometimes testing. I unlocked the tall balcony doors to let some air come in. The sun was now out and knowing just how much Carmen enjoyed laying outside in the warm shade, and the attention she paid to the sights and sounds



around her, even the loud yapping seagulls, I was happy for her to explore. I also needed to water the plants.

She watched me drench the withered foliage with moisture and proceeded to lap up the surplus. I marvelled at her fascination with tiny creepy crawlies. As they scurried around on the ground she imparted them with a graceful tap before sending them on their way. I sniggered at her obvious irritation as a couple of unwelcome flies descended. Carmen's teeth chattered without making a sound, her focus completely fixed and determined. She lowered her body and manoeuvred towards her target with great agility.

For much of the time I busied myself with domesticity - all the mundane but necessary tasks that needed to be done around the flat. At every interval my four legged friend was close by. In some incidences, although entertaining, it was difficult to get things done. Sweeping, for instance, proved to be a particular challenge as every attempt to use the broom, my feline friend saw as an opportunity to get involved. Her head darted from side to side with every swish of the broom, then she would race along the hall and carefully scrutinise where next the large 'brush' would be heading before returning to give it a swipe or two with her paw.

I stopped for a while to give her a little attention, stroking around her ear, as that was all that she would allow. My bungled attempt to pick her up resulted with me receiving a small nip at the back of my hand and Carmen running off back onto the balcony. It wasn't long however before she rejoined me again in

the kitchen to help me consume my mid morning brunch.

I sat down on the living room sofa with a cup of warm camomile tea (I had made it earlier while cleaning and forgotten about it). Miss Buttercup followed behind, stretched, then ventured to her favourite spot on the carpet to sharpen her claws before laying down beside me on the settee. After a couple of minutes she retreated to the top of the chair above my head for a nap.

I would have dearly loved for her to feel comfortable enough settle on my lap. I sighed and wondered whether Carmen's character would remain unchanged. I took a sip of tea...only time would tell...🐾

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# CATS AND WINTER

With the winter coming, cats' owners soon need to be aware of the hazards of cold weather

**O**bviously there are welfare issues, like making sure that cats are protected from bad weather. Some owners let their cats out when they go to work and the cat cannot return home until the owner is back from work. Unless there is a warm space provided for the cat, e.g. access to a garage or shed; this is unethical. Cats who spend a lot of time outside should be provided with shelters.

Some cats may choose to spend more time inside during the winter. This means that the cat may be less active and owners need to be careful about the amount of food they give. It is easy for cats to become obese during winter months if the food intake is the same as in the summer but they do not exercise as much. Since they stay inside more, they can become bored and request food more often.

Exercise and providing an outlet for natural behaviours should be encouraged by owners. Ordinarily a cat would roam for most of the day, catching about 10-15 mice or other small prey animals. Inability to perform natural behaviours can lead to stress and behavioural problems. It is a good idea to encourage cats to play several times a day with small furry toys that they can chase and 'kill'. This will prevent obesity

and boredom during the winter months.

Boredom and inability to go out as often as in summer can lead to behavioural problems. This is even more likely in multicat households.

Cats need to have control over their environment and resources. This can become difficult in winter. For example a cat who relies on using an outdoor latrine may struggle if the ground is frozen. This may lead to inappropriate urination at home. This is one of the reasons that every cat, no matter if going out or not, should be provided with a litter tray. The cat may not use it - but he needs to be given the choice.

Cats in multicat households may struggle with sharing resources

if they stay indoors for prolonged time during winter. Depending on the relationship between cats in a given household, this may be a big problem. Some cats cope with overcrowding at home by time sharing and spending prolonged periods of time outside. This may prove difficult in winter and cause fractions at home. It can lead to aggression between cats or marking with urine.

Some cats can become shy, hide more and overgroom. It is very important in multicat households to provide enough resources for each cat but it becomes even more important in winter when cats can't utilise outdoor space as well as they would in summer.

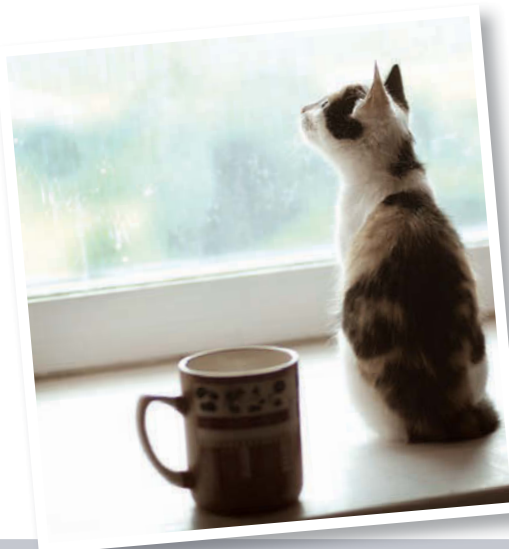
There is potential for stray cats or neighbouring cats to look for shelter as well. They may invade your home by a cat flap if it's not a flap that works only for resident cats by use of a microchip.

Any shelter in the garden can be utilised by stray cats too. This is stressful for the resident cat and in the long term it can lead to behavioural problems. Stray cats should not be encouraged to remain in the garden and cat flaps should be operated by microchip, so only resident cats can enter the house. A local charity should be contacted if there is any concern about stray cats and their welfare in the area.

Other concerns regarding winter conditions are medical. Cats with arthritic joints may suffer more in cold months and may require additional medication to cope with pain.

A very important winter consideration is antifreeze (ethylene glycol) poisoning in cats. It can be found in car engines to prevent freezing and overheating, hydraulic brake fluid but also in fountains and other water features in gardens. The poisoning is lethal, and sadly often leads to kidney failure and death. As a cat owner, do not use antifreeze; educate your neighbours and check regularly for any spills from cars.

Hopefully cat owners will enjoy more cuddles with their cats when they decide to stay at home in bad weather. Cats who are out and about all day in the summer may honour their owners with their presence when it's cold. 🐾



● **Justyna Ratczak, MRCVS, is a qualified veterinary surgeon dealing with behavioural cases at Abbey House Veterinary Hospital, Leeds**





#### Double delight

*Cross stitch designer Susan Ryder has two British Blues, Timmy and Boris, who are brothers. Timmy helps with the stitching but Boris helps with the designing by walking across the computer keyboard. He can make the whole design turn upside down - something Susan can't do herself!*



# CATalbum

If you want to see your cat featured in our album, then email us a large-file picture along with a few details about them and what they are doing. Don't forget to tell us who you are too! Email: [editor@catworld.co.uk](mailto:editor@catworld.co.uk) Don't forget to visit the Cat World Facebook page too!

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cat in our  
album!**

#### Two little cuties

*Here are Oliver (14 months) and Dexter (five months) - my two furry babies. They light up our world!*  
Val Emery, Mansfield



#### Merry Christmas Pippa

*Brian Girvin says: Man United fan Pippa is my Christmas cracker; my little Christmas star. She plans to have a red Christmas, as she only sees red.*





Here's a fabulous collection of cats. Thanks to everyone who posted on the CW facebook page. We love seeing your photos.



**HiLife  
winner**

### **Santa Paws is coming to town**

*This is our family cat Oscar, who is very excited about Christmas!*

### **There she is!**

*Kerry O'Brien sent this cute pic of her cat Belle creeping out of the flower bed.*



### **Two little cuties**

*Here are Oliver (14 months) and Dexter (five months) - my two furry babies. They light up our world!*  
*Val Emery, Mansfield*



## **WIN HiLife Tempt Me!:**

The winner will receive all six recipes in the new HiLife tempt me! 85g pouch range. HiLife tempt me! is a completely new, super premium cat food, offering high quality ingredients and a selection of the most favourite recipes. Each variety offers a well-balanced meal that is truly delicious. The range includes a range of six Tuna- or Chicken- based recipes in either Jelly or Sauce. The recipes in Jelly include



Just Tuna with Prawns, Just Tuna with Ocean Fish, Just Chopped Chicken and Just Chicken with Liver. The choices in Sauce include Just Tuna Flakes and Just Tuna with Squid; all for adult cats.



# Ask the experts

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH YOUR CAT WE'RE HERE TO HELP

If you are worried about your cat's health, our panel of experts will try to help. Here are some answers to your questions on cat welfare and veterinary issues

## Living with arthritis

**Q** My cat is now 14 years old and seems to be enjoying life at a slower pace. I am worried that he might have arthritis - how can I check?

**A** One of the most common ailments for an elderly cat, arthritis is a painful condition that often goes undiagnosed. As we all know, cats are very good at hiding their feelings. In fact they would rather hide away somewhere altogether rather than show any signs of being in pain.

Research has found that as many as 90% of cats over the age of 12 have shown evidence of joint degeneration yet it has only fairly recently been agreed that cats rarely show signs of lameness when they are suffering from joint pain.

There are signs that owners can be aware of and recognise in our elderly feline friends that, if concerned, should encourage them to seek veterinary advice. And a few small changes in the home can make life more comfortable for a senior

feline suffering from joint pain and help them to manage a condition like arthritis more easily.

## Recognising the signs

- Your cat is reluctant to use a scratching post (due to painful joints) and may have long, thick claws from lack of use.
- His coat may become matted and dull as he is unable to groom himself properly
- Activities that have been 'normal' are not often seen, such as jumping on to worktops or furniture
- A usually calm cat can suddenly become aggressive
- He is reluctant to go outside, as being active causes him pain

A vet can only be sure that the signs above are as a result of arthritis by scanning the joints. This does require the cat to be sedated so that he can be correctly positioned to get the appropriate diagnostic images.

## The home environment

These simple changes can be important to an elderly cat, particularly one suffering joint pain, and can help to improve quality of life

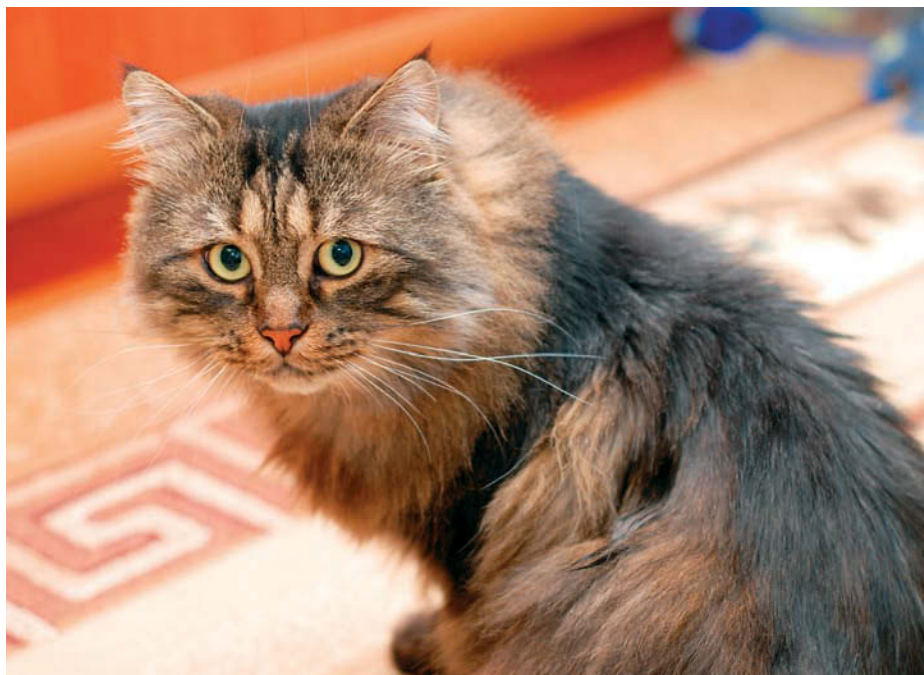
- Provide a soft bed in a quiet, draught-free area or areas that your cat can easily access.
- Treat him to a low-sided litter tray indoors, which will be easier for him to climb in and out of.
- Ladders or steps to higher places will be much appreciated, especially by cats who prefer not to eat at ground level.
- Provide easy access to food and water, ideally where your cat prefers to spend most of his time, avoiding the need to go upstairs or downstairs
- Watch his weight. Obesity is one of the main contributors to joint health problems. Many cat food companies now offer a range for senior felines.
- Spend some time grooming your cat, cleaning eyes and bottom which can be out of his reach
- If you have a cat flap, tie it open if possible so there is no need for the cat to push through

If you recognise any of the symptoms above in your cat then ask your vet to check him over. There are painkilling drugs available but safe, anti-inflammatory drugs for cats are limited. You may prefer to try some of the therapies and alternative/complimentary remedies that are now readily available. Your veterinary practice should be able to recommend a vet who specialises in such treatments.

## He misses him so much

**Q** My two cats, Clyde and Jasper, have lived with me for 11 years until recently when sadly, Jasper became very ill and had to be put to sleep.

It is a huge loss to me but Clyde also seems to be devastated and spends a lot of time sitting and looking at the areas where Jasper used to lie. Clyde is also reluctant to eat and I am beginning to really worry about him. What can I do to help?







**A** The scenario you describe is actually fairly common when cats have been companions for such a long time. Clyde is obviously missing his buddy but he could also be sensing how upset you are. There are several things that you can do to help Clyde get through this period of grief.

Cats like, even need, things to be predictable so it is important that you try to stick to the same routines as before. Don't be tempted to move things around in your home as this could disturb or remove Jasper's scent and Clyde will be keen to keep that for as long as possible as it will make him feel safe. You should

leave Jasper's bedding etc. unwashed for a while until Clyde seems a little happier. You could try using a feline pheromone diffuser or spray around the home too as this should have a calming effect.

I am sure you feel you want to fuss and stroke Clyde at the moment to reassure him but actually that might have the opposite result and stress him further. He would probably prefer to be left alone while he is feeling so out of sorts. What he will appreciate though is to hear your calm, reassuring voice, so keep talking to him gently whenever he is near you and try to keep your own emotions in check

(easier said than done, I know).

A good way to encourage Clyde to eat again is to offer little bits of food frequently so that he is not faced with a big bowl of food. Giving him an occasional treat to reward him if he does eat some food would also be a good idea. However, if this doesn't work and he is still declining his food then it would be wise to take him to your vet to be checked over in case there is an underlying health issue that is being masked by the grief. Consulting a trained animal behaviourist may also be something you might like to consider if the grieving is prolonged.

### Does my cat have Alzheimer's?

**Q** I've recently become concerned about our elderly cat Marjory. She has the choice of several litter trays around the house and although she does use them all, she uses other areas as a toilet too. We've tried to deter her from these areas with tin foil and a pheromone spray but she continues to toilet around the house on occasion.

Our vet thinks she may be going senile but I'm not sure if there are any other signs of this we should look for. She sleeps more than she did but she is getting on a bit and she does tend to stare at the wall occasionally. Can you give us any idea?

**A** The behaviour that Marjory is showing with regard to toileting

around the house and ignoring your attempts to prevent her doing so is, I'm afraid, an indication that she may well be suffering from Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome (CDS) which I think is what your vet will have been referring to. This feline condition is very similar to Alzheimer's in humans and how it presents itself varies with each individual cat.

Signs of CDS include being disorientated, house soiling, changes in their sleeping/waking pattern, behavioural changes such as becoming more withdrawn or needing more in the way of social interaction with you and changes to activity levels.

Sadly, like the human version, there is no cure. Possible treatments include medications that increase the supply of oxygen to the brain and those that affect behaviour. You may need to try several types of treatment and

support and results are best with early intervention.

I recommend you ask your vet to discuss the various options with you and that you also consult a feline behaviour specialist. 🐾



# GORDY TOWERS



Gordy has gone up in the world...and up, and up...A new cat tree tower has been delivered and Laney finds the house is perhaps not as big as she thought

It may seem somewhat extravagant to purr-chase for a cat with special needs a HUGE cat tree, one with turrets and ladders and platforms and towers...but Gordy is worth it. Re-named Gordy Towers, likened to Trump Towers, that enormous monolithic construction that dominates the skyline of New York, Gordy Towers now dominates our hallway and totally obscures the light from the 'front back door' and rendering it completely useless to the task of opening.

The front back door is at the back of the house, hence its name, even though the back door on the other side of the house and more accessible to the drive, is the door that has the letter box; although coming through the back front door leads you into the main house, which is reasonably tidy; as tidy as you can get with two grown up kids still living at home, two mad dogs, a husband and a cat that dribbles, the door that is in use constantly is the one that leads directly into the utility room where the washing stacks up and the post man can get a birds eye view of all the dirty laundry in this house.

But, Gordy Towers has a purpose; at least that is what I have been telling the husband to justify the expense on such a massive toy. My daughter (19 in December) being just 5ft nothing, is most jealous of Gordon and she has been caught a few times looking at the ladder up into the main tower and, like Rapunzel,

wondering if she lets down her locks of purple hair, her Prince in shining armour on a white steed will come trotting through the hall and rescue her from the life of drudgery she seems to think she lives. She has more chance of a fine chap with black and silver stripes and a long tail, using the outside tower facilities to empty his bowels and flick the clay litter particles through the flappy door and over her foot.

When Gordy first came to live with us, a year ago now, having never had an indoor cat, we decided that he needed a cat tree. This decision was taken on the basis that all cats that live indoors have cat trees, don't they? So after searching the internet for the best deal, we settled on one that seemed to meet the needs we had; it had to have a couple of low platforms and a bed but it couldn't be too high or too big as Gordy was just a little bundle of fluff and, as we had been told, his balance was unpredictable and his climbing skills really quite rubbish. So we didn't want anything that would be too big for him, too grown up.

It was like buying a bike for the children when they were young; did it have stabilizers? Could we tie it to the door handle of the front back door? Would Gordy be able to reach the platforms? Would it grow with him? We were novice cat tree buyers.

It duly arrived, a box of fluffy platforms, rope posts and a cubby hole hidey box. I was too excited to wait for the husband to come home and, armed with the allen key provided, I set about putting it together with help from all of the four paws. Gordy climbed inside the

hidey hole box and refused to come out. That's after he had been evicted out of the cardboard box and told that the box didn't cost the money the tree did so he had better pay attention to that instead!

Within 30 minutes it was up and in place, in front of the front back door. Both Iz and Defi had sniffed it and decided it was beneath their dog status. Gordy had glanced at it before settling down in his radiator bed, inherited from previous felines of the house no longer with us, and snored.

## Fast forward a year

Gordy has put on weight during the last 12 months; he has filled out beautifully. The dip in his neck, part of his condition, has become chubby, reminding me of the fontanel spot babies have before they develop into toddlers. Maybe that's what has happened with Gordy?

Maybe he is finally a toddler? He certainly gets about a lot more now. He is much more active than he was a year ago and twice the size, although still much smaller than the British Shorthaired breed should be. He has plenty more 'good' days now than 12 months ago, and so he was scratching at the posts of the old cat tree, almost dragging it over with force. Thank goodness it was tied to the door handle, although the tree itself was still light enough to push out of the way, on the rare occasions we used that door this summer.

And as for fitting in the little round fluffy cat bed that is half way up the tree, most of Gordy hung over the side, his tail dangling down invitingly to anyone that may have wandered past below and glanced up. We even had a couple of occasions when all peace would be shattered as an almighty crash sounded





through the house as Gordy had rolled over and just fallen off the tree and out of bed, lying sprawled on the floor blinking, all four paws pointing upwards and that dangly tail perpendicular to his body. It was time to upgrade to a big cat tree.

Husband and I got hunting on the internet. Now we felt we were seasoned professional cat tree buyers, this being our second in a year. Gordy took great interest in cat tree research and spent as much time at my laptop, dribbling over the keyboard, as we did, although we didn't dribble..and then we saw it. The photograph was just fantastic. It was like a fantasy film; all that was missing was the Princess and the white horse, complete with knight in shining armour.

It rose from the ground, via a ladder, under which was a 'thing'; the 'thing' not really being figured out until the tree was in situ in our hallway. The ladder took you to a platform with steps on either side that spread out like petals on a rose, taking you to a second platform and higher. Then there were the towers, three of them, the middle one being the largest and having not one hidey cubby hole bed but three. The castle rose even higher, with a further platform and a final turret with a little fluffy ball inside that makes a tinkling noise if you play with it. It was purr-fect.

It was bought for Gordy - he deserved it. After all, he had put on a bit of weight and he was more aware and adventurous than anyone had thought he could be. Yes he still had problems, and will always have, but we wanted something that would encourage him to be more active. He does like to lead a sedentary life so with this extra weight he was piling on, he needed to tone up.

It arrived in two boxes; the delivery driver staggered up the drive with each one separately and read the box. I was slightly embarrassed but explained that it was for Gordy and that he had special needs. The chap was won over and told me all about his Terrier dog that he had rescued and how she had problems getting on with people due to her past life experiences and how she will now toilet in the garden and not the house. She is three. Although I was feeling like the 'mad cat lady', he did make me feel a bit better knowing that I wasn't the only 'mad animal person' around.



Like last year, I was too excited to wait for the husband and after unpacking both boxes and discarding the instructions that might as well have been written in Japanese for all I understood, we - Iz, Defi, Gordy and I - laid all the pieces out on the floor of the kitchen. Thank goodness for a big kitchen!

Iz soon got bored and wandered off to the far end of the room to watch the momentous build take place; she has watched me build flat pack furniture before! Defi and Gordy were being proper men about the whole experience and inspecting each piece, giving it the sniff of approval. Gordy then disappeared into one of the enormous boxes and refused to come out, most likely until construction was complete. He had a long wait.

After two hours I stopped for lunch. After three hours the husband came home for something and helped me finish the build, in the kitchen. It was truly spectacular in design when constructed and finished. Like a real tower, it reached up towards the ceiling; it spread out, filling our kitchen with fluffy platforms and turrets. Gordy loved it, although he did look quite small when I placed him on the petal style steps. Defi was in awe and being a bit (a lot) of a wuss, he cowered behind Izabel who looked on in disgust that this little cat had got the biggest bed.

After a few minutes of head scratching, mine and the husbands, we attempted to manouvre the enormous piece of cat furniture into the hallway and into the space left behind by the old cat tree (that was now in the living room, in the corner behind the sofa). We heaved and we pushed, sweated a bit and husband may have sworn slightly at the size and weight of this thing, but we got it in place in front of the front back door. The hallway is considerably darker now and heaven knows where we are putting the Christmas tree this year as this is its spot throughout December. This



year we might just have to put some lights around the top turret and pretend Gordy is our Angel in his hidey hole bed.

We have found out what the 'thing' is: It's a scratch post that rolls and spins. Gordy found out, much to the amusement of us all. He started to play with it, then he jumped on it and spun

tail over ears to the other side. He loved it! As yet we haven't mastered the ladder but my Gordy is not as simple as he seems. He uses the litter box lid to climb up onto the first platform and then he can use the steps. He loves to sit on the top platform, looking out of the window on the front back door and he can now see into the field as the hedges have been cut lower. He watches the pheasants, the magpies, the crows in the field and the smaller birds in the hedge. Occasionally he sees the fox and I know that badger walks past that window at night. The blind is no longer closed, no need now as the tower blocks the view, so maybe Gordy watches badger at night?

The bigger and much more sturdy scratch posts are a big hit and Gordy pulls himself up and dangles his back legs off the floor whilst he scratches for pleasure. I love sneaking up to the tower and looking in the hidey holes to see which one he is curled up in, fast asleep; he is the King of the Castle.

Somehow I don't think that he will outgrow this cat tree in a year. He has many feline admirers from the internet that want to come and play with him in his fabulous new pad and hopefully it will encourage him to be more active and strengthen those back legs of his as he continues to put on weight and grow into the handsome boy he has become. Outside cats get to climb big trees and scratch in the dirt to strengthen their muscles so this is the compensation for Gordy, who cannot go outside on his own and who doesn't like to go outside if the sun is not shining brightly and he has to walk on the dewy grass. At least that is what I tell the husband. 🐾





# INTRODUCING THE WORLD'S *first legal pet nup*

**W**hilst many couples put in place agreements to protect their assets, Blue Cross animalcharity is encouraging pet owners to consider their beloved pets and sign up to this specially created document to plan for the pets' future and avoid heartache should their relationship come to an end<sup>[1]</sup>.

- Developed by specialist lawyers, the document declares ownership, responsibilities and rights in the event of a relationship breakdown whilst keeping pet welfare at its heart
- Almost two thirds admit that arguing over cherished pets made splitting up more difficult
- Women are most likely to keep the pet in the case of a break-up
- Four pets taken in by Blue Cross every week following relationship breakdowns

Blue Cross has announced the launch of the Pet Nup, the pet equivalent of a pre-nuptial agreement, but with pet welfare at the heart of it.

A recent report\* carried out by the charity has revealed that more than one in four divorced couples in the UK has argued over the ownership of their pets when they split. Blue Cross figures show that marital conflict and relationship breakdown has been the cause of almost a thousand pets given up to Blue Cross' 12 rehoming centres over the past five years – an average of four a week.

The leading pet charity has partnered with divorce lawyers, Lloyd Platt & Company, in an attempt to stop the numbers of pets getting caught up in marital disputes around the country and lessen the stress and heartache for owners and pets alike.

It comes as almost two thirds (62%) of those questioned revealed that argu-

ing over treasured pets had added to the emotional turmoil of a divorce while 66% admitted that a pre-agreed written agreement, stipulating at the outset who would get ownership of pets and who would pay for what in the event of a divorce, would have made the process a lot less upsetting and they would have argued less about it.

Dogs and cats were identified as the most fought over pets followed by horses, rabbits and guinea pigs.

The free document, which can be downloaded from the Blue Cross website and has been developed in partnership with legal divorce experts, sets out the right of ownership in the event of a divorce or relationship breakdown and covers ongoing pet care. In addition, Blue



Cross has also created a simple Deed of Agreement document that sets out who will take ownership in the event of a break-up.

Vanessa Lloyd Platt, divorce lawyer at Lloyd Platt & Company, who developed the Pet Nup, commented: "Pets are part of the family so in the event of divorce, who gets to look after the pet, as with children, is sadly all too often the grounds for much dispute. We handle more than four hundred divorces a year, many of which have a prenuptial agreement involved, and whilst they are always emotional and hard for those involved, the pre-nuptial agreements definitely take the conflict out of them and speed up the process. Just as with the house, the car, and the gadgets, it makes sense to agree right at the outset who gets ownership of the dog, horse or the chinchilla in the event of a relationship breakdown or divorce."

The Blue Cross study reveals that when Brits split, it is usually (56%) the wife or girlfriend who keeps the pet, whereas just under a third of men (29%) retain full ownership.

For those who couldn't decide who should keep the pet, 15% decided to give them to a family friend, 12% to family members and 6% to pet charities such as Blue Cross.

Alyson Jones, Rehoming Manager at Blue Cross, commented: "At our rehoming centres we deal with some very upsetting situations when pets are brought to us following relationship splits. It really is devastating for everyone involved – including the pet. One partner will sometimes bring a pet to us for rehoming without the other's knowledge. Our pets are not just material goods; they are often at the heart of our home lives, so it is a good idea to agree on your pet's future in advance

#### The top five biggest pet bones of contention for couples who have split up are:

1. The number of walks per day (41%)
2. Frequency of grooming (34%)
3. Vet check-ups (25%)
4. How long pets should be left alone (24%)
5. Holidays (17%)

to make a difficult situation easier. It makes sense to agree up front who will keep your pet so that they don't get dragged through the courts or end up in our rehoming centres."

Over a third of the couples questioned revealed they had taken on a pet as a sign of their commitment to each other but when they split, a third (30%) of couples admitted they disagreed about the details of care their pets should receive.

Vanessa Lloyd Platt added: "The courts in England and Wales do not like deciding how people should divide ownership of their pets but where they do, evidence of who bought the pet or a document outlining who will get what and who will pay for what, will be very strong evidence. It is particularly important when children are involved for everybody to know where their pets are if the relationship breaks down. I believe written agreements like the Pet Nup will stop the increase in pet conflicts once and for all." 🐾

- To download a copy of the Pet Nup or Deed of Agreement just go to: [www.bluecross.org.uk/pet-nup](http://www.bluecross.org.uk/pet-nup)

[1]NB this document is not legally binding unless signed by both parties and witnessed.

#### BSB Products launch INTERSAND City Classic Cat Litter into the UK

UK pet product distributor, BSB Products, have introduced an innovative, hygienic cat litter into the UK market imported from Canadian manufacturer, INTERSAND.



Cat owners will be impressed by INTERSAND City Classic's high-performance Litters from the moment they try them! These superior-quality litters meet all that is required in terms of cleanliness and, not only do they control odours, but they are also easy to maintain on a daily basis.

#### The INTERSAND City Classic range has a triple action function:

INTERSAND City Classic cat litter forms firm clumps immediately on contact with faeces or urine and can absorb up to 400% of its weight in liquid. The clumps stay firm and do not crumble over time so they can be easily and effectively removed from the cat litter tray. There is no need to use litter liners and the tray can be simply topped up.

The fine clay absorbs, holds and neutralises odours. Available in Baby Powder and Lavender, the clump neutralises the odour and, on contact with moisture, gives off a subtle scent of its own. It is also available in Unscented.

Made of fine grains of 100% natural clay with blue zeolite INTERSAND City Classic is soft on a cats' paws and 99.9% dust free in the home. Another great feature is that INTERSAND City Classic has low tracking which means no trail of litter from the tray throughout the home.

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- For more information and a list of stockists, please call BSB Products on 01737 767679





# Kim's world

AT HOME WITH KIM ROGERS



I have had a busy month. The boys are finally getting used to people; after nine years they will now go outside if there is a bit of noise and don't always shoot upstairs when the doorbell rings.

There has been so much building work in the neighbourhood, they have had to get used to it or they would never venture outside. It's been going on now for years but is getting closer and closer, so therefore the noise is much louder. They went outside today with a disc cutter going next door and they didn't even look perturbed.

## An old friend

The weather is getting colder and they don't go out so much, especially when it is windy. They don't enjoy the wind buffeting their fur backwards. Tipp's hates it and will run straight back indoors. I don't like them to stay inside all day, even if they only go out for an hour; I think, like children, they need some fresh air and exercise every day to keep them healthy.

Why does the colder weather make us (the cats too) tired? By 3pm I feel like I need to close my eyes and have a catnap. They are on totally opposite timings to me and are just getting up at 3pm and ask to go out for a walk around the garden. I think the clocks going back makes it harder to stay awake and because it gets dark earlier, our body clock feels that we should be relaxing and curling up on the sofa quietly with our pets. Their radiator beds are out of storage and back up. Tipp's was in his before I could fix it firmly into place. He doesn't seem to realise that the heating needs to be on for the bed to get warm - he loves it regardless.

The darker and longer evenings of winter make us all feel a little sleepy and cats are no exception

## Dedication

I have been busy helping out at the Sanctuary lately. Firstly I helped fund raise in a local supermarket to raise money for the 'Digs for Dogs' appeal. I basically handed out leaflets, stickers and balloons and chatted to people about the Sanctuary to drum up support and get the visitor numbers up.

Lots of people stopped to chat and tell me about their pets which was nice. About ten or more volunteers turned up to help on a rainy Saturday which just shows how many people are dedicated to this great cause. I actually really enjoyed it. It was nice talking to shoppers about their pets; many of them were rescued from the Sanctuary so they had a real interest in the appeal.

We raised nearly £400 so it was well worth doing and I am proud to have been involved.

## The purrfect treat

As the weather is getting colder and the cats in the Sanctuary are staying indoors a bit more, I put my thinking cap on to find something that would keep them amused. After many ideas that either weren't practical or would have been very costly, I came up with the idea of filling soft cat toys with dried catnip and putting a couple in each pen.

I bought a big bag of dried catnip from the pet shop and carefully unpicked the stitching down the back of each toy, removing some of the filling and replacing with the catnip. Any toys that I couldn't add catnip to, I decided to just rub into the fresh catnip that is growing outside the Main Reception on my way in.

I had all the toys in a little plastic bag along with my usual treat of ham and some nibbles as well. The first pen I went into had four cats in. One wasn't interested in

the catnip at all, two were fairly inquisitive and one went absolutely mad for it. So much so that before I even had a chance to get the toys out of the bag, he followed me outside and jumped on my back to get to the bag full of toys. He was ecstatic when I gave him a toy full of the catnip.

All the cats really enjoyed it. Some rubbed the toy with their faces, some dribbled all over it, some held on with their paws and cuddled them to their faces and some just kicked and kicked them before holding on to them and snoozing. They were all definitely smiling. I even put a couple of toys in the section for the senior cats who I noticed began sniffing around, trying to find where the catnip smell was coming from.

Then I went back into each pen and gave all the cats nibbles and ham. All the cats were very content that Sunday and I was smiling too as I made my way back to the car. My work here was done! For today anyway... 🐾



Kim Rogers is an active volunteer at her local animal sanctuary.

Ferne Animal Sanctuary

Chard, Somerset TA20 3DH

[www.ferneanimalsanctuary.org](http://www.ferneanimalsanctuary.org)



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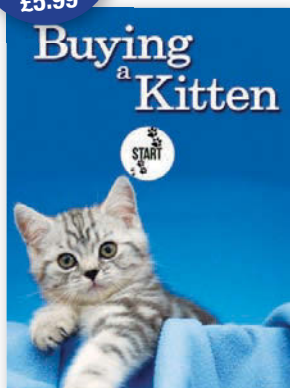
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**Average Litter Size:** 6

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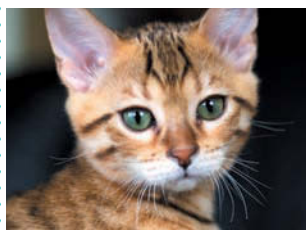
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However, to help ensure you are buying your precious kitten from the best possible home, there are several important points you should be aware of:

- The GCCF recommend that all kittens are house-trained, vaccinated and in good health before being placed in new homes. If a kitten doesn't look healthy don't buy it, no matter how cute it seems.
- Beware of buying under-age kittens. No reputable breeder will sell a kitten under 13 weeks of age.
- Your kitten's pedigree should show at least four generations. You can ask to see the pedigree at the outset, and make sure you get a copy when you collect your new kitten.
- Ensure you are also given registration documents, a transfer of ownership form, and vaccination certificates.
- You should also collect a diet sheet outlining the types of food the kitten is used to, and the appropriate times of feeding.
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[www.ann.mott.freeuk.com](http://www.ann.mott.freeuk.com)

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web: [www.catbalu.com](http://www.catbalu.com)

## NEXT ISSUE . *Norwegian Forest*



**Breed profile -  
January issue 442**

**To advertise your Norwegian Forest call Maria now on 01903 884988  
or email [maria@ashdown.co.uk](mailto:maria@ashdown.co.uk)**

CLOSING DATE FOR JANUARY ISSUE NO. 442: NOON, 25 NOVEMBER

# BREEDERS DIRECTORY

BOOK YOUR ADVERT OR SEARCH FOR KITTENS ONLINE AT [WWW.CATWORLD.CO.UK](http://WWW.CATWORLD.CO.UK)

## WARWICKSHIRE

Mrs Pat Westwood Henley in Arden Mobile: 07909 684866. FARISLE RAGDOLLS - Blues, Seals, & Tabbies for breeding, show and pets. Kittens raised in the home.

01564 792560 07909  
684866 pat@farisle.co.uk  
[www.farisle.co.uk](http://www.farisle.co.uk)

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LARNIKAT. British Shorthairs kittens, Colourpoints in all colours, + Tabby Colourpoints, selfs in Blues and Lilacs, sometimes Spotties and Tabbies. Reg/Vacc/Ins. Home-reared. PKD-negative tested. 01922-620505.W.Midlands. lin.larnikat@talktalk.net [www.larnikat.com](http://www.larnikat.com)

Call Elizabeth on  
01903 884988 or email  
elizabeth@ashdown.co.uk  
or see page 75 more details

## YORKSHIRE

Mrs Jeanette Fitzpatrick EMERISLE CATS. Ragdolls - all patterns & colours. \*Seal Colourpoint, \*Blue Colourpoint, \*Seal Bi-Colour, \*Cream, \*Seal Mitted, \*Blue Mitted. \*Tiffanies. \*Scottish Fold. \*British Shorthair. TBRCC or PRBCC Breeder of the year 1999- 2011. TBRCC breeder of the top Ragdoll 1993, 1995/96. Best Opposite Sex 1995/96. Breeder of Supreme Show 1999 Top Ragdoll & sire of the first Ragdoll to win the UK Grand Title 2003. Breeder of the Best kitten, adult & neuter 1999-2003. Established 26 years - our beautiful cats feature on 'It's a Cats Life' video, appeared on Granada Live TV and photographs regularly feature in all cat magazines. 01943 461852 07774 650217 fitzpatrick.jeanette@googlemail.com [www.emerisle-cats.co.uk](http://www.emerisle-cats.co.uk)

[www.catworld.co.uk](http://www.catworld.co.uk)

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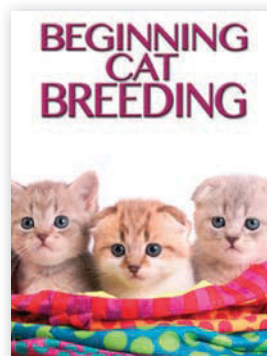
## CAT

*Do not bring a  
new kitten into  
a home where  
family routine  
is about to  
be disrupted*

## TIPS

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## BEGINNING CAT BREEDING



Now available from the app store is our brand new app Beginning Cat Breeding, perfect for cat lovers everywhere looking to take their first steps into the exciting world of breeding. Complete with interactive galleries and videos, we've got everything you'll need to get started, from selecting your breed right up to birth. At only £5.99 you'd be made to miss it!

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## FACTS ABOUT CATS

1. A cat's collar bone is not connected to any other bones, which is what helps them squeeze into all those tight spots!
2. Cats respond most readily to names that end in an 'ee' sound.
3. The largest breed of cat is the Ragdoll; the males weigh in at around 20 pounds. The smallest breed is the Munchkin; (left), and the male weighs 7-9 pounds.
4. The most popular cat breeds in the UK are British Shorthairs, Siamese, Bengals and Persians.
5. A cat cannot see directly under its nose, which is why it may have a hard time finding tiny treats on the floor right in front of it.

6. In general, cats have five toes on each front paw, but only four on the back paws, unless they are polydactyl.
7. A cat has a total of 24 whiskers, with 4 rows of whiskers on each side. The upper two rows can move independently of the bottom two rows. As you know, a cat uses its whiskers for measuring distances and gaps.
8. Due to cat's nocturnal nature, they are often known to enter a period of increased hyperactivity and playfulness during the evening, dubbed the 'evening crazies', or 'mad half hour'.
9. Cats have much better noses than humans. A cat has approximately 60 to 80 million olfactory cells - a human has 5 to 20 million.

10. The first year of a cat's life equals (in terms of development) the first 15 years of a human life. After its second year, a cat is 25 in human years. After that, each year of a cat's life is equal to about 7 human years.
11. The hearing of the average cat is at least five times keener than that of a human adult. Careful what you say!
12. Cats have 32 muscles that control the outer ear (compared to human's 6 muscles each).
13. A cat can rotate its ears independently 180 degrees, and can turn in the direction of sound 10 times faster than the best watchdog.



THE LEADING BREED-BY-BREED GUIDE TO CATS & KITTENS FOR SALE



# STUD DIRECTORY



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To help you find a suitable stud, this list gives the names of studs, and brief details of parentage, together with owner's name. Further details appear under the relevant county in the BREEDERS DIRECTORY (unless the county is followed by an \*).

## 10 CHINCHILLA

**Gorgeous chunky silver boy (carrying gold).** Good type and eye colour, fabulous temperament. DNA PKD and FELV negative, fully vaccinated. Limited availability to experienced, tested and vaccinated queens. 07709772938  
[wishlistpersians@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wishlistpersians@yahoo.co.uk)

## 13CI BIRMAN SEAL POINT

**Foye Champagne Charlie 13CI.** (Blood group B). Sire Ch. Caroon Toujour Lamour 13CI, Dam Ch. Foye Morsi de Luce 13CI. Charlie has excellent type and temperament. Also very good eye colour. Supervised matings. Snowqueen Birmans 0117 9682929  
mobile 07970 012020. Email [cmd.318@virgin.net](mailto:cmd.318@virgin.net). BRISTOL.

**Demilune Jenicol Jackson** (13CI) (blood group "A"). Sire Shantatal Jackofhearts 13CI. Dam Adfurlo Angeleyes 13C2 JJ (short name) has excellent pedigree breeding seal and blue lines only. Supervised mating's. Contact Mrs Viv Green 01379 898884 or email: [vivi.green@btinternet.com](mailto:vivi.green@btinternet.com) area Suffolk/Norfolk.

**Grand CH, Snowqueen Charles Lafitte 13CI** (Blood group "A"). Sire Foye Champagne Charlie 13CI. Dam Snowqueen Jasmine 13C2. Charlie has excellent type and temperament also very good blue eye colour. Supervised mating's. Contact Mrs Viv Green 01379 898884. Email: [vivi.green@btinternet.com](mailto:vivi.green@btinternet.com)

## 13CI2 BIRMAN BLUE TABBY POINT

**Ch Jandouglen Cuil Lodair.** Ch Camulodunum Jandouglen Ben 13C12 x Camulodunum Ladyoftiree 13C2 carries dilute. Super temperament. Supervised matings. Mrs Ann Mott, Suffolk 01359 221200. Email: [ann.mott@freeuk.com](mailto:ann.mott@freeuk.com)

## 15 BLACK BSH

**Vinery Zanzibar** (GrCh Catbalu HarryPotter 15c x Ch Sheephouse

Winnie-Niger 15) Blood Group B Carries Lilac and Chocolate Sussex 07713270755

## 15D RED SELF BSH

**Achuri Erik.** Gr Ch Satinmist Apollo (15) x Achuri Iolanthe (31f). Five Merits. Blood Group A. Sire of many winners. Miss R. M. Stiles. DEVON. 01803 327811.

## 16 BLUE BSH

**Vinery Devon** (Sheephouse SunnyJim 31d x Westways AzureLatte 28) Blood Group AB Carries Lilac and Chocolate Sussex 07713 270755

**Achuri Meconopsis.** Champion Achuri Meconopsis Miletree Tushka (16) x Achuri Mayqueen (16) blood group A. Tested queens only. Lovely eye colour. Friendly gentle temperament. Miss R M Stiles. DEVON. 01803 327811

## 19 RED TABBY BSH

**Baritophanie Merlin** (19) GCh Vectensian Red Admiral (19) x Dubolly Brilliant Red (19). Very loving and gentle boy. Margaret Wood. Middx. 0208 894 3544. [rogerwood01@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:rogerwood01@tiscali.co.uk)

## 27 BROWN BURMESE

**Ch Chinkara Joe Brown.** Planxty Dragonheart (27) x Gr Ch Chinkara MixnMatch (27e). Carries Blue and Chocolate. Approved tested queens only. Mrs Carolyn Clark. ESSEX. 01206 331376. email: [carolyn@chinkara.freesevice.co.uk](mailto:carolyn@chinkara.freesevice.co.uk)

## 27C LILAC BURMESE

**UK & Imp Gr Ch Anokhi Boy George.** IGR Ch Anokhi Masterblaster (27a) x UK Gr Ch Mainman Kissangel (27b). Supervised matings to recently tested queens. Luxury stud-house. An experienced gentle boy siring healthy kittens of superb type & temperament including show winners. Mrs Mary Moore. OXFORDSHIRE

01608 810631 email: [dulcamara-burmese@zen.co.uk](mailto:dulcamara-burmese@zen.co.uk)

## 27B CHOCOLATE BURMESE

**Gr Ch. Chathera Catotigernos.** Sire Prefere Chocolate Rondo (27b) x G Ch Chathera Mirranda (27c) Super temperament. Carries Blue. Approved tested queens only. Mrs P. A. Pallister. LINCOLNSHIRE. 01529 302236. Email [pennypallister@talktalk.net](mailto:pennypallister@talktalk.net)

## 27F CREAM BURMESE

**UK Gr Ch Penwynkatz Creme Delight.** Sire UK & Imp G Ch Chathera Coolcolombo (27c) x Ch Oakford Amira (27j) Super temperaments. Lilac Based. Approved tested queens only. Mrs P.A. Pallister. LINCOLNSHIRE. 01529 302236. Email: [pennypallister@talktalk.net](mailto:pennypallister@talktalk.net)

## 31D RED/WHITE BI.COL. BSH

**Sheephouse Sunny Jim.** Catbalu Macduff (31f) x Sheephouse Speciality (21b). Supervised matings. Limited stud. Jenny Vaughan. EAST SUSSEX. 01825 840236. Email: [jcartervauhan@aol.com](mailto:jcartervauhan@aol.com)

## 31F CREAM & WHITE BSH

**Vinery Cattuccino** (Sheephouse SunnyJim 31d X Westways AzureLatte 28) Blood Group A Sussex 07713 270755

## 54 GOLDEN PERSIAN LH

**Admewlo Charlie Boy.** Adentlo Golden Billyboy (54) x Adentlo Dillylilly (10). Hand-some, friendly, affectionate. Sires beautiful kittens. Mrs Shakides. KENT. 01322 280795. Email: [shaklaw@ntl.world.com](mailto:shaklaw@ntl.world.com)

## MAINE COON

**Acoonamatata Fire in the Sky.** Gr Ch Acoonamatata Quiff Riley 64 43 fsw Mullycoonz Sapphire Mist 64 18g. Gentle experienced boy. HCM negative. Supervised matings. Limited stud. Approved FELV/FIV tested Queens only. Siring beautiful kittens.

Marian Denyer Sussex 07946716424. Email [catriona.cats@gmail.com](mailto:catriona.cats@gmail.com)

## 66W SEAL POINT MITTED RAGDOLL

**Ch Willowbeck Wolf Ofemerisle.** Adentlo Ambrose Ofemerisle (66w) x Emerisle Mistee Morn (66a). Stunning large boy of superb original Ragdoll type. Heart tested normal for MYBPC3 gene and FELV & FIV neg. Faultless temperament, gentle and patient with novice queens. Deep, deep blue eyes finish off this perfect boy. Stud and kitten enquiries. Mrs J. Fitzpatrick. YORKSHIRE. 01943 461852 or 07774 650217. email: [fitzpatrick.jeanette@googlemail.com](mailto:fitzpatrick.jeanette@googlemail.com)

## 76B30 BLUE-EYED SNOW SPOTTED

**Jetspots Mr Bombastic.** Benlotte Crescendo (76a30) x Karsuka Suneta Sharma (76b30). Big beautiful boy, extremely gentle, brand new stud quarters and fully supervised matings. Tested queens only. GCCF & TICA registered. Mrs Davida Bemister. DORSET/HAMPSHIRE BORDER. Email: [davidabemister@sky.com](mailto:davidabemister@sky.com) [www.bootyliciouscats.co.uk](http://www.bootyliciouscats.co.uk). 01202 479439.

## RAGDOLLS

**Emerisle (various boys, some are titled).** All active boys heart tested normal for MYBPC3 gene and FELV & FIV neg. All have fabulous size, type, temperament and eye-colour. All patterns in Cream, Blue & Seal, Mrs Jeanette Fitzpatrick. YORKSHIRE. 01943 461852/07774-650217. Email: [fitzpatrick.jeanette@googlemail.com](mailto:fitzpatrick.jeanette@googlemail.com)

## SNOWSHOE - SEAL

**Ferry Vom Friedewald.** Snowangels Hitop Sneakers (83w) x Southpole Xshu Xshu (83aw). Gentle affectionate boy. Siring top quality kittens. Mollie Southall. WARWICKSHIRE. 01926 402937. Email: [coldenuffersnow@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:coldenuffersnow@hotmail.co.uk)



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### 1 CHOOSE YOUR ADVERT

**SNOWSHOE**  
Example of 4cm x 2 column

**£104 for all 4x2 colour specials**

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Email: maria@ashdown.co.uk  
www.catworld.co.uk



#### DOUBLE COLOUR DISPLAY

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maria@ashdown.co.uk  
www.catworld.co.uk



**Abyssinian**

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Arundel, West Sussex BN18 0AG  
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maria@ashdown.co.uk  
www.catworld.co.uk

#### COLOUR DISPLAY

Let buyers see exactly what they are getting by using a colour photo with your advert. No Photo? No problem. Simply select a colour background to ensure your ad stands out from the crowd. Up to 15 words with photo, 35 words without.

Other sizes available on request. Call for details. All prices plus VAT.

### 2 CONTACT US TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT

-  **Trade advertisers freephone: 0800 435553**
-  **Book online: [www.catworld.co.uk](http://www.catworld.co.uk)**
-  **Email: [maria@ashdown.co.uk](mailto:maria@ashdown.co.uk)**
-  **Post to: Cat World, Unit 5E, Park Farm, Chichester Road, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 0AG**

### 3 IF POSTING YOUR ADVERT PLEASE SEND YOUR TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPH USING THE FORM BELOW

**STYLE:** ☐ Double colour display (4cms x 2 columns) ☐ Colour display with photo (4x1)  
☐ Colour display without photo (4x1)

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Address: .....

Postcode: .....

Tel: ..... Email: .....

☐ I enclose my cheque/p.o. payable to Cat World  
or debit my ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ VISA

Card Number: ..... Issue no: .....

Start date: ..... Expiry date: ..... 3 digit security no: .....

Signed: .....

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# photo finish

*Kitten from the UK RagaMuffin Cat Society [www.ukrmcs.co.uk](http://www.ukrmcs.co.uk)*

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when's Santa  
coming?'







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